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BACK TO SCHOOL
ADVICE FOR KIDS AND PARENTS FOR THE NEW YEAR {pages 45-51}

NFL PREVIEW
TOP TEAMS, PLAYERS WHO'VE MOVED, A LOOK AT SEASON OPENER
{page 77}

TORONTO metro®
Thursday, September 8, 2011
www.metronews.ca
News worth sharing.

TIFF. Kick-off

▶ An acrobat performs last night at a celebration for the start of the 35th annual Toronto International Film Festival.

RYAN ENN HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spotlight on the A-listers

Stars such as George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Rachel Weisz, Michelle Williams, Glenn Close, Robert De Niro and Viggo Mortensen are on the guest list for the 11-day Toronto International Film Festival, which opens today with an unusually heavy emphasis on music and documentaries. More coverage, pages 36-39.

'Body here but inside empty'

▶ Daughter and husband of woman who died in TTC bus crash speak out ▶ Lawyer preparing to sue both drivers and the TTC

Jadranka Petrova was returning from booking an appointment for her G2 licence when the TTC bus she was riding crashed with a flatbed truck last Tuesday.

The 43-year-old mother, who was sitting on the left side of the raised platform behind the bus's rear doors, died at the scene.

Yesterday, Petrova's husband, Donco, and her 20-year-old daughter Irena, talked of a woman who was always busy, baking for her church, shopping or watching hockey games.

Their lawyer, John McLeish, said at his office that he will be filing a statement of claim in the coming weeks on behalf of Jadranka's family.

"The anticipated lawsuit will be against the driver of the TTC, the TTC itself and the driver of the flatbed involved," said McLeish, adding later that he cannot say how much in damages will be sought at this time.

"It's still early and we haven't heard from any other of the seriously injured individuals on the bus," said McLeish.

Jadranka and her family came as refugees to Canada, starting in 2008, from Kavadarci, Macedonia, where they faced persecution because of their status as Roma, an ethnic minority. The couple met when they were teenagers and married before they were both 20. Their son, Tose, a filmmaker who once played for Macedonia's national basketball team, stayed in Macedonia.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ Jadranka Petrova, pictured with her husband Donco and daughter Irena.

Jadranka was working as a seamstress in Toronto and taking English classes with her daughter.

"My mom loved Canada. I can say she loved it more than Macedonia," said Irena, who called her mother her best friend.

"I can't explain my feelings," said Irena of the past week. "My body is here but inside is empty."

Jadranka's body will be flown back to Macedonia for a funeral Sunday, but Irena and Donco can't go back to their homeland for risk of prosecution.

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Toronto police may be offered buyouts

DAVID COOPER/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Toronto Police Chief William Blair

In an effort to avoid layoffs, the Toronto police board is considering a voluntary severance package for hundreds of mid-ranking officers, say sources.

This is on top of the 18 packages that were offered to a select number of inspectors and staff superintendents in July.

The exact number is still unclear, but one official said that combined with attrition, the buyout was aimed at "getting to (Chief Bill) Blair's target" without handing police personnel pink slips.

In a report to the board in July, Blair said as many as 750 uniform officers and 400 civilians would need to be laid off in order to hit the mayor's 10 per cent budget reduction demand.

Every year, roughly 200 officers leave the force through attrition. Combined with a two-year hiring freeze in 2011 and 2012, the board would be eyeing 350 packages.

Police vice-chair Michael Thompson declined to comment on the proposal, but acknowledged the board had looked at the possibility.

"I think everyone in this city would recognize that it's an option for the board," said Thompson.

"I think it's prudent to say that the board is looking and examining at all the different options… we've chatted about it sort of in general, but I don't believe we've come to a definitive decision on anything."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Change of heart for Ford

The mayor, who earlier rejected two public health nurses, has now voted to accept three on

Mayor Rob Ford has accepted a provincial offer to pay for three public health nurses for the city's fight against bedbugs.

He voted in favour of the three nurses Tuesday without admitting he made a mistake in June when he rejected a near-identical provincial offer of two nurses.

His spokesperson referred questions yesterday to Coun. Denzil Minnan-Wong — a curious choice given that Minnan-Wong has criticized Ford for the June rejection. Minnan-Wong said he was unable to explain why Ford could not have accepted the first offer on the same condition he attached to the second.

"All I can tell you is why he voted for this," Minnan-Wong said.

"The mayor is concerned about the problem of bedbugs. And if we can find more resources to address the issue, he supports that."

Ford justified the rejection of the first offer by arguing that the city would be forced to pay for the nurses if provincial funding expired. On Tuesday, he and his executive committee endorsed the second offer with the caveat that the nurses will be laid off if the province ever stops covering their entire salaries.

"It's exactly the same motion that I was putting forward for the first two nurses," said Coun. John Filion, chair of the board of health and a Ford critic.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Political. Couple

▶ Ontario Liberal Leader Dalton McGuinty and his wife, Terri, arrive yesterday at the suite of David Onley, the lieutenant-governor of Ontario, at the Ontario legislature yesterday. A provincial election will be held Oct. 6.

FRANK GUNN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Provincial election campaigns begin

Instead of lower taxes, Ontario homeowners would face tax hikes if the Progressive Conservatives are elected Oct. 6, Premier Dalton McGuinty warned as he launched his re-election campaign. McGuinty kicked off his bid for a third term with a rally of Liberal supporters in Mississauga, where he was introduced by his wife, Terri, a rare public speech for her.

1 news

What does spring break have to do with teen-pregnancy rates? Scan the code for the story.

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Jason Priestley gives a hint of what to expect from the upcoming season of Call Me Fitz. Video at metronews.ca

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Celebrities uniting for We Day

Singers, athletes and movie stars to share the Air Canada Centre stage

Singers Nelly Furtado, Joe Jonas, Shawn Desman, Classified and Kardinal Offishall are slated to appear Sept. 27 at the Air Canada Centre for Free the Children's We Day, a youth empowerment event.

Organized by Free The Children, the yearly star-studded day usually features inspirational speeches by Nobel Peace Laureates, social activists and award-winning entertainers. The aim is to celebrate positive actions and to motivate youngsters to make a difference in their communities and around the world.

Also sharing the Air Canada Centre stage on Sept. 27 are the first female president of Ireland, Mary Robinson, actor Danny Glover, Canadian Paralympian Rick Hansen and many others.

Events

- We Day is free to students and educators.
- In addition to Toronto and Vancouver, events are also planned for Waterloo, Winnipeg and Montreal.

We Day is also planning an event in Vancouver on Oct. 13, headlined by former Russian president Mikhail Gorbachev and NBA star Shaquille O'Neil.

The two events will stream live online to allow people to take part from anywhere in the world.

A special encore broadcast airs on Much Music on Oct. 30 at 10 p.m.

METRO

GEORGE PIMENTEL/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Shawn Desman, seen here performing at Summer Jam on July 15 in Toronto.

JULIE JACOBSON/THE CANADIAN PRESS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Nelly Furtado, seen performing at the 11th Annual Latin Grammy Awards last November in Las Vegas.

Conservation group pans shark fin report

A national conservation group slammed a Mississauga staff report that claims cities do not have the authority to ban shark fin products.

"Municipalities do have legal jurisdiction on this," said former Brantford MPP Phil Gillies, now a representative of WILDAID Canada, at yesterday's council meeting.

His appearance at city hall came after Mississauga's legal department, in a report to council, stated that municipalities don't have the jurisdiction to ban shark fin products and that it's a federal matter. Council had passed a motion in July to pursue a ban.

Gillies made his case by using the example of bear gallbladder, which he said had first been banned by some municipalities before a province-wide ban took effect.

Gillies told council that 75 million to 80 million sharks are killed each year to meet the demand for shark fins, sending some species to the brink of extinction. Shark fin soup is a popular item within the Chinese community and is often served at special occasions such as weddings.

Victor Oh, chairman of the Canada-China Business Communication Council, said at yesterday's meeting that his group supports a ban. But Oh said a municipal ban would be unfair to Mississauga restaurants.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

KEITH BEATY/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Phil Gillies, a representative of WILDAID Canada, advocates a ban on shark fin.

Brantford ban

- Brantford banned shark fin products in May, becoming the first Ontario municipality to do so.
- On Tuesday, Brantford Mayor Chris Friel said that the city did its homework before it passed its bylaw, which is enforced under animal cruelty guidelines.

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PHOEBE HO/FOR METRO

▶ Michael Schratter reaches his milestone stop in Toronto yesterday for the Ride Don't Hide campaign.

Mental illness: 'The silence is what's deadly'

Man began his global cycling adventure to raise greater awareness on Aug. 1, 2010 He'll wrap up his journey on Nov. 12 in Vancouver

PHOEBE HO
TORONTO@METRONEWS.CA

Battling headwinds, sandstorms and weighed down with 48 kilos of gear strapped to his bicycle, Michael Schratter has spent the last year cycling solo around the world to fulfill his 14-year-old dream.

A part-time journalist and fifth-grade teacher, Schratter took a year off work to cycle around the world while raising awareness for mental illnesses for the Ride Don't Hide campaign with the Canadian Mental Health Association.

Ride Don't Hide

- 20 per cent of Canadians will experience a mental illness in their lifetime.
- The Ride Don't Hide campaign has received more than $40,000 in donations to date. Michael Schratter hopes to raise at least $100,000 by the end of his trip.
- For more, visit ridedonthide.com.

Diagnosed with bipolar disorder 10 years ago, Schratter has first-hand experience of the stigma mental-health patients face.

"I can't think about another human affliction that is still so misunderstood and has so much anxiety around it," he says. "The kind of prejudice against people that have gone through it can be more harming than the actual illness itself. The silence is what's deadly."

Cycling through rough terrain and unpredictable weather, Schratter says the most difficult aspect of his year-long journey was the isolation he faced.

"I'd get really upset if at the end of the day I couldn't get onto Wi-Fi — that was my connection to the world," he says. "From the mass emails that I received, I know that I touched a button here and giving up wasn't an option."

Six continents and 30 countries later, Schratter now has 8,000 km left to go on his 40,000-km journey, making his Canadian milestone stop in Toronto yesterday. With his trip coming to an end in November, Schratter says he's getting a bit anxious.

"There's this growing anxiety that's building as I head towards Vancouver. I've been dreaming about this since '96. I'm going to be proud, obviously, but I'm going to have to find something to fill the hole."

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NEW DELHI CARNAGE

Bomb in briefcase kills 11

A powerful bomb hidden in a briefcase ripped through a crowd of people waiting to enter a New Delhi courthouse yesterday, killing 11 people and wounding 76.

An al-Qaida-linked group claimed responsibility. The attack outside the High Court renewed doubts about India's ability to protect its main institutions despite overhauling security after the 2008 Mumbai siege.

"Have we become so vulnerable that terrorist groups can almost strike at will?" opposition lawmaker Arun Jaitley asked in parliament.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Gadhafi keeps 'em guessing

Where is Moammar Gadhafi? Answers vary.

Tripoli's military chief said yesterday he's cornered.

But another top defence official said Libya's new rulers have no idea where he is.

Gadhafi disappeared after opposition fighters swept into Tripoli Aug. 21.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Two bombing suspects held

Militants accused in a Jerusalem bus stop bombing that killed a British woman and wounded dozens of civilians in March have been arrested, Israel said yesterday.

Arrested were two Palestinians aged 36 and 23. The bomb killed Mary Jean Gardner, 59.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

22 die in 'danger city'

Suicide bombers in Quetta miss targeted officer, but kill his wife

BANARAS KHAN/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Shouts, smoke and fear mark the scene as a bloodied victim is carried away after a suicide attack in Quetta, Pakistan yesterday.

A pair of suicide bombers killed 22 people while targeting a top army officer in southwest Pakistan yesterday.

The bombers missed the officer, but killed his wife.

Among the other dead were several guards, a senior officer and two children, officials said.

Police said they were investigating whether the strike in the city of Quetta was revenge for the recent arrests there of three top al-Qaida suspects, an operation assisted by the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency.

Quetta is a dangerous city, thought to be home to al-Qaida and Taliban leaders.

The first attacker detonated his vehicle close to the house of Brig. Khurram Shahzad, deputy head of the Frontier Corps.

Hurling grenades, the second attacker then stormed the house and blew himself up inside it, a police officer said.

An unidentified five-year-old girl who security personnel had carried bloodied from the scene, some of her clothes torn from her body, later died in hospital, a doctor said.

The child was in a rickshaw, with her parents who also died in the attack, he said.

Another child was also killed in the blast, along with a colonel in the corps.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Canadian coach among dead

The Russian Kontinental Hockey League has confirmed that Canadian Brad McCrimmon, right, was among the dead in the plane crash. McCrimmon took over as head coach in May.

A native of Saskatchewan, the 52-year-old was most recently an assistant coach with the Detroit Red Wings, and played for years in the NHL for Boston, Philadelphia, Detroit, Hartford and Phoenix.

The Russian team also featured other top names including Russian defenceman Ruslan Salei and Swedish goalie Stefan Liv. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Glasgow $99
Travel Oct 11 - Oct 18/ts — + taxes & fees $521

Turks & Caicos $99
Travel Sep 17 - Sep 24/ac — + taxes & fees $153

Vancouver
Travel Sep 21/ac — one-way $199 + taxes & fees $88

Buenos Aires $289
Travel Sep 20 - Sep 29/ua/co — + taxes & fees $558

Bangkok $515
Travel Sep 20 - Sep 28/dl — + taxes & fees $466

Cairns $1249
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USA

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Miami Air + 4 Nights $464
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Departs Sep 22/nol/ts.

Varadero 7 Nights 4-Star $297
Arenas Doradas — + taxes & fees $277
Departs Sep 15/nol/ts.

Mazatlan 7 Nights 5-Star $305
Riu Emerald Bay — + taxes & fees $247
Departs Sep 13/sgn/wg.

Riviera Maya 7 Nights 4.5-Star $415
Grand Coco Bay — + taxes & fees $347
Departs Sep 17/swg/wg. UPGRADE to the 5-star Riu Yucatan for $17 per night.

Jamaica 7 Nights 4-Star $467
Holiday Inn Sunspree — + taxes & fees $348
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MISHA JAPARIDZE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Rescuers lift a stretcher with the body of a victim out of the river yesterday at the crash site of a Russian Yak-42 jet near Yaroslavl on the Volga River, about 240 kilometres northeast of Moscow. The jet carrying the Lokomotiv ice hockey team crashed while taking off yesterday in western Russia.

Russia loses top hockey team in plane crash

Squad featured several top European players and former NHL stars, including Slovakian Pavol Demitra who played for the Blues and Canucks

Russia was stunned by its worst-ever sporting tragedy yesterday when a jet carrying a top hockey team crashed moments after takeoff, killing 43 people, and leaving two others critically injured.

The Russian Emergency Situations Ministry said the Yak-42 plane crashed into a riverbank on the Volga River immediately after leaving an airport near the western city of Yaroslavl, 240 kilometres northeast of Moscow. It was sunny at the time.

Russian television showed footage of the flaming wreckage in the river as divers worked to recover bodies in what ranks as one of the worst sporting plane crashes of all time.

THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

"We will do our best to ensure that hockey in Yaroslavl does not die, and that it continues to live for the people ... on that plane."

RUSSIAN ICE HOCKEY FEDERATION PRESIDENT VLADISLAV TRETIAK

The plane was carrying the Lokomotiv team from Yaroslavl to Minsk, the capital of Belarus, where the team was to play today against Dynamo Minsk in the opening game of the season for the Kontinental Hockey League. The ministry said the plane had 45 people on board, including 37 passengers and eight crew.

Officials said Russian player Alexander Galimov survived the crash along with a crewmember.

Eleven foreign players were reportedly onboard the jet. A Czech Embassy official said Czech players Josef Vasicek, Karel Rachunek and Jan Marek were among those killed, and Latvian officials confirmed the death of Latvian defenceman Karlis Skrastins.

The plane that crashed was relatively new, built in 1993, and belonged to a small Moscow-based Yak Service company.

Swarms of police and rescue crews rushed to the banks of the Volga River. One of the plane's engines could be seen poking out of the river and a flotilla of boats combed the water for bodies.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS WITH FILES FROM THE CANADIAN PRESS

'Darkest day'

International Ice Hockey Federation president Rene Fasel called it the "darkest day in the history of our sport."

Reaction poured in yesterday following the crash of a Russian jet carrying the Lokomotiv Yaroslavl hockey team.

"Though it occurred thousands of miles away from our home arenas, this tragedy represents a catastrophic loss to the hockey world — including the NHL family, which lost so many fathers, sons, teammates and friends who at one time excelled in our league," said NHL commissioner Gary Bettman. "Our deepest condolences go to the families and loved ones of all who perished."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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KHALED DESOUKI/GETTY IMAGES

▶ An Egyptian anti-Mubarak protester carries a flare outside the police academy yesterday on the outskirts of Cairo, where ousted president Hosni Mubarak's trial resumed.

Top military rulers called to Mubarak trial

Egyptians expecting generals will expose ousted leader's role in putting down protests against his rule

The judge in the trial of Hosni Mubarak summoned the top members of Egypt's ruling military council yesterday to testify in closed sessions, a move Egyptians have eagerly hoped for.

Testifying at the landmark trial could give Field Marshal Mohammed Tantawi, who now rules Egypt, a chance to boost his image in the face of growing public criticism that the military remains too close to Mubarak's regime. It also injects new seriousness into a trial that many saw as running aground amid confusion and allegations of perjury.

Tantawi and several other members of the country's top leadership who were also called to testify were all members of Mubarak's inner circle.

So it is believed they can address whether Mubarak ordered police to use lethal force against protesters in the 18-day uprising that led to his downfall in February.

But the sessions, due to start on Sunday, will be closed to the media and the public — and the judge banned Egyptian media even from reporting on information leaked from the testimony. Judge Ahmed Rifaat said the order was for the "protection of national security and higher national interests."

That will thwart public hopes for the full airing of how the leadership dealt with the uprising at an important juncture in Egypt's history.

It could also prevent the emergence of any new details about to what extent the military — which depicts itself as a "full partner in the revolution" — challenged Mubarak during the uprising.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mubarak charges

▶ The 83-year-old Mubarak is on trial on charges of complicity in the deaths of protesters, a charge that could bring a death penalty.

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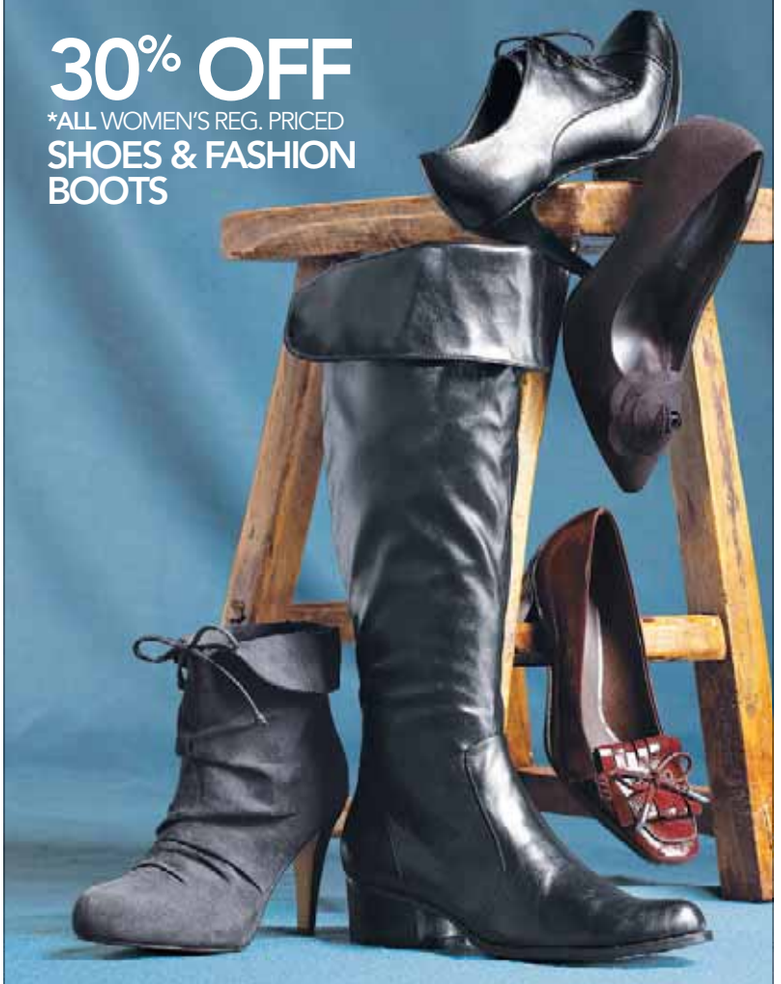

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RICHARD LAUTENS/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

▶ Harper's staff deny issuing a formal directive.

Tory 'directive' ordered name change to 'Harper Government,' documents show

Critics say compelling civil servants to describe government using PM's name is unprecedented

New evidence shows civil servants were ordered to formally describe the Government of Canada as the "Harper Government."

Internal emails from Health Canada flatly contradict a published denial by Prime Minister Stephen Harper's former communications director, who wrote last March that "nothing could be further from the truth."

The email from a senior communications official says the switch to "Harper Government" in departmental releases came via a "directive" from the Privy Council Office, which serves the prime minister.

A PCO spokesman says no formal directive went out to replace the "Government of Canada" in communications, but "there may have been instances where the term was introduced." THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Half of us are tax cheats: Survey

Half of Canadians are willing to dodge paying taxes, a poll suggests.

The survey conducted for the Canada Revenue Agency found only 49 per cent of people are not likely to cheat. The others are open to cutting corners, usually by paying cash for goods and services. However, almost all are reluctant to fudge their tax returns, preferring under-the-table deals to evade taxes.

The survey didn't say how much is lost to tax cheats, but in July, Statistics Canada estimated the underground economy in Canada was worth as much as $36 billion in 2008, a 90 per cent increase over 1992. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Researcher seeks pot addicts

Clinical psychologists at the University of Calgary are looking for some laid-back volunteers who may once have had a bad case of the munchies to develop treatment for people addicted to marijuana.

It's estimated that one in 10 users develop a dependency. Study lead Jonathan Stea wants to examine the difference between getting help and going cold turkey. Volunteers who have had a cannabis addiction but have been clean for at least one year should check out calgary-marijuana-study.ca. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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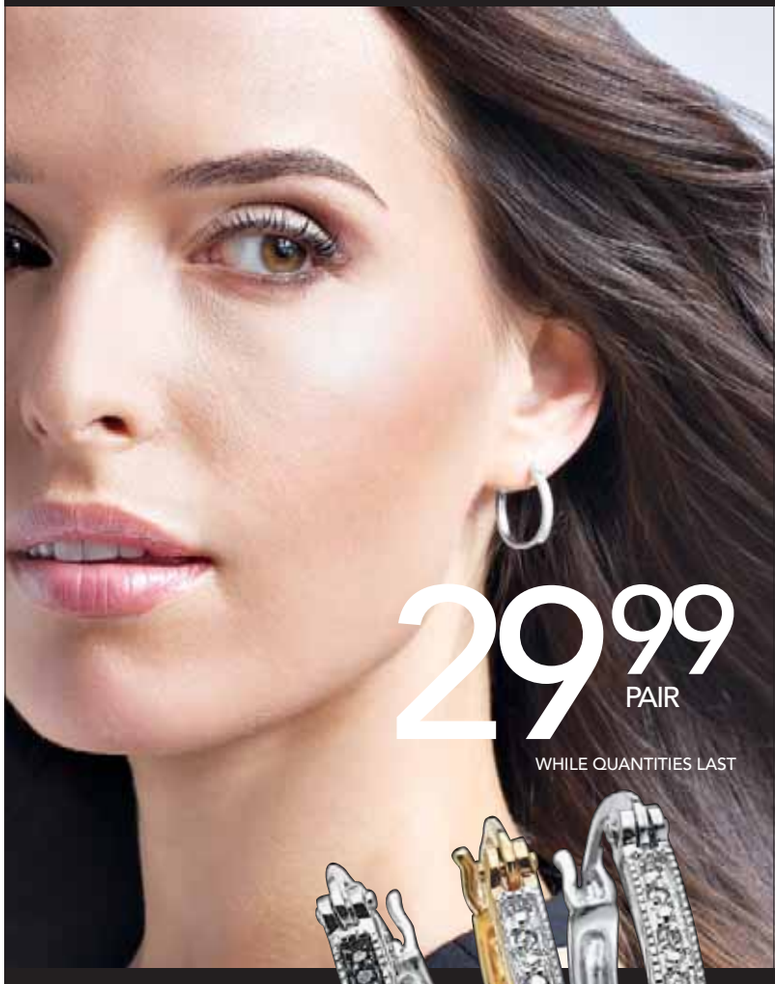

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BRIAN BLANCO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Chantal Guerrero sits in the same classroom at Emma E. Booker Elementary School where she sat on the morning of Sept. 11, 2001, with U.S. President George W. Bush.

Kids had front-row seats to history

Florida students recall when president got news of 9-11 attacks Say it gave them a greater perspective

The students who were with president George W. Bush in a southwest Florida classroom Sept. 11, 2001, remember how things suddenly changed on modern America's darkest day.

Now high school seniors, they remember how Bush's face suddenly clouded as his chief of staff bent down and whispered to him that the U.S. had been attacked. Lenard Rivers said the president had a blank stare, like he was trying to keep his emotions in check in front of the class.

The students were just second-graders at the time, and they can't say for sure how the moment changed them. Chantal Guerrero says she's not sure what kind of impact it had because she didn't really know what life was like before the terror attacks.

She does remember how Bush pressed on with the reading as best he could before sharing the devastating news with the country.

"It was like a blank stare. Like he knew something was going on but he didn't want to make it too bad for us to notice by looking different," said Lenard Rivers, now a 17-year-old football player at Sarasota High.

What the students can't say for sure is how that moment changed them. They were just second-graders. Their memories were only beginning.

"I think we all matured maybe a little bit," said Chantal Guerrero, now a 17-year-old senior at Sarasota Military Academy. "But since we were only 7, I'm not sure what kind of impact it had, because we didn't know how things were before."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Knox sees 'light at end of tunnel'

Ruling on DNA clears the way for closing arguments

STEFANO MEDICI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Amanda Knox won another battle yesterday in her attempt to have a murder conviction in Italy overturned.

American student Amanda Knox won another battle in her quest to overturn a conviction for murdering her British roommate in Italy when an appeals court rejected a prosecutor's request yesterday for more DNA testing.

The decision is good for Knox because it means that an independent review of DNA evidence — previously ordered by the appeals court and hugely favourable to Knox — will stand. It deals a blow to the prosecutors who had sought to counter the results of that review, which harshly criticized how genetic evidence was used.

Knox's father, Curt Knox, said his daughter was seeing "the light at the end of the tunnel." However, Knox's lawyer Luciano Ghirga warned that the court's rejection of new DNA testing was not equal to a positive outcome of the whole appeals trial.

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Upcoming Events – Fall 2011

CCI-Toronto Educational Courses

Level 101 Condo Course
Saturday September 17th, 2011
9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Level 200 Condo Course
Saturday, October 15th & 22nd, 2011
9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Level 201 Condo Course
Saturday, November 26th, 2011
9:00 a.m. to 12 noon

Don't miss the CCI-Toronto Town Hall Meetings Prior to the October Provincial Elections

being held in the *Willowdale Riding*
on September 13, 2011, from 7:30-9:00 pm

and in the *Etobicoke Lakeshore Riding*
on September 14, 2011, from 7:30-9:00 pm

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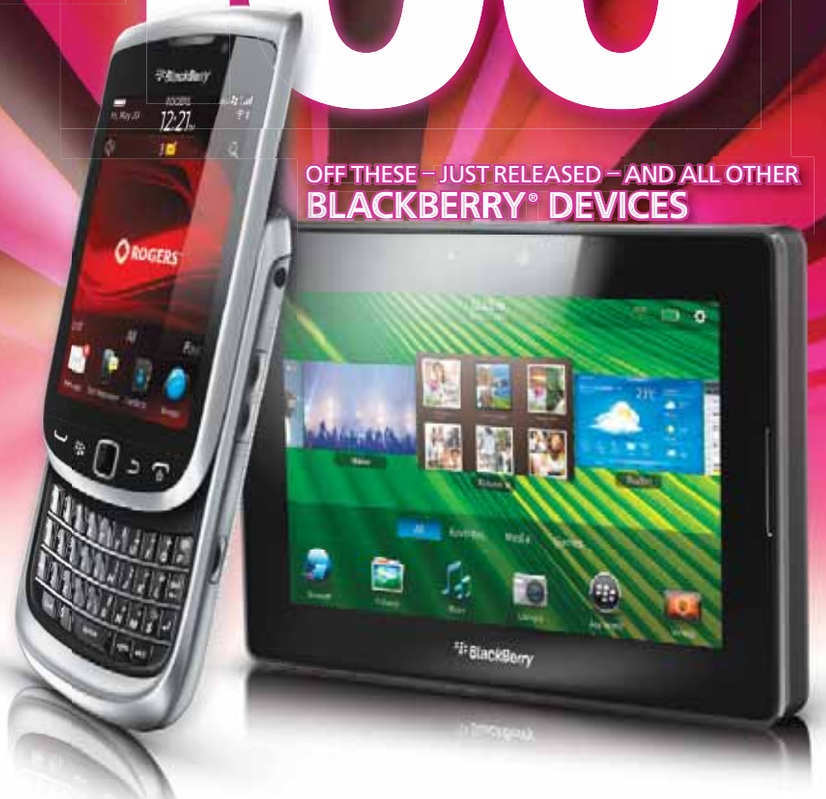

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Peace laureates oppose pipeline

Tutu, Dalai Lama among nine signatories in letter to Obama

Nine winners of the Nobel Peace Prize have written a letter to U.S. President Barack Obama asking him not to approve a pipeline that would ship oilsands crude from Alberta south to Texas.

The letter says the Keystone XL Pipeline poses a safety threat and would encourage greater use of oilsands oil, which they point out creates more greenhouse gas than conventional oil. It was drafted after an American environmental group approached the organization that represents six of the seven living female peace-prize laureates.

A spokeswoman for that group says all the laureates who signed the letter were well aware of the issues the pipeline represents and of the protests it has generated in Washington.

Protesters gathered in front of the White House for two weeks asking Obama not to approve the pipeline.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Market moment

TSX	Dollar	Oil	Natural gas
+ 202.02 (12,720.56)	+ 0.44¢ (101.47¢ US)	+ $3.32 US ($89.34 US)	$3.991 (+ 5.0¢)
			Gold $1,817.60 (– $55.70)

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

McDonald's. Makeover

▶ John Betts, president and CEO of McDonald's Canada, in one of the franchises' Toronto restaurants on Monday.

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

$1B for renovation blitz

McDonald's is spending $1 billion to renovate all its 1,400 Canadian locations by next year in an effort to look cosier as the fast food giant raises the stakes to grab more customers. The fast food giant is tearing out the old plastic interiors and replacing them with leather furniture, plasma TVs and fireplaces.

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"Now in its Ninth Generation, the Honda Civic Continues to Fly High"
– Motor Trend Magazine, April 20, 2011, author: Ron Kiino^

"The new car is practically flawless and better than it's predecessor without any trade-offs..."
– MSN Autos, author: James Tate^

"The new Civic has better balance, more content and it's fuel-efficient."
– National Post, Apr. 20, 2011, author: Graeme Fletcher^

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*Limited time lease offer on any new 2012 Honda Civic LX Sedan with Manual Transmission (Model FB2E4CEX) available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Representative lease example: 2012 Honda Civic LX Sedan with Manual Transmission (Model FB2E4CEX) on a 48 month term at 1.99% lease APR, the monthly payment is $178 [includes $1,395 freight and PDI, EHF fitres ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100), and OMVIC fee ($5)] with $2,240 down payment or equivalent trade-in, $0 security deposit and first monthly payment due at lease inception. Total lease obligation is $8,543. 96,000-kilometre allowance; charge of $0.12/km for excess kilometres; **Receive 1.99% purchase financing on any new 2012 Honda Civic LX Sedan (Model FB2E4CEX) for a maximum of 60 months available through Honda Financial Services Inc., on approved credit. Example: based on a 2012 Honda Civic LX Sedan (Model FB2E4CEX) on a 60 month term at 1.99% APR, complete price of $19,020 [includes $1,395 freight and PDI, EHF fitres ($29), EHF filters ($1), A/C tax ($100), and OMVIC fee ($5). Excludes taxes, license, insurance, and registration], and 130 bi-weekly payments of $154. Cost of borrowing is $977 for a total finance obligation of $21,797. Down payment or equivalent trade-in on purchase financing offers may be required based on approved credit from Honda Financial Services Inc. ‡$1,000 Gas Card offer applies only to retail customer purchase, lease or finance agreements for new 2012 Civic models concluded between September 1, 2011 and September 30, 2011 at participating Ontario Honda retailers. $1,000 Gas Card offer includes GST, PST, HST, QST where applicable. For all offers: license, insurance, registration, PPSA, and other taxes (including HST and tax for fuel conservation, if applicable) are extra. Taxes payable on full amount of purchase price. Offers only valid for Ontario residents at Ontario Honda Dealers. Dealer may sell/lease for less. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Vehicles and accessories are for illustration purposes only. Offers subject to change without notice. See your Ontario Honda Dealer or visit HondaOntario.com for full details. †Honda Civic received the lowest number of problems per 100 vehicles among compact cars in a tie in the proprietary J.D. Power and Associates 2011 Initial Quality Study℠ in the U.S. Study based on responses from 73,790 new-vehicle owners, measuring 234 models and measures opinions after 90 days of ownership. Proprietary study results are based on experiences and perceptions of owners surveyed in February-May 2011. Your experiences may vary. Visit jdpower.com. ◊Based on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between October 1997 and August 2010. ΔBased on Association of International Automobile Manufacturers of Canada (AIAMC) data reflecting sales between October 1973 and August 2010. ^Motor Trend Magazine, April 20, 2011, author: Ron Kiino (http://www.motortrend.com/roadtests/coupes/1104_2012_honda_civic_drive/viewall.html). MSN Autos; author: James Tate (http://editorial.autos.msn.com/2012-honda-civic-first-drive?page=2). National Post, Apr. 20, 2011, author: Graeme Fletcher (http://www.nationalpost.com/cars/Preview+2012+Honda+Civic/4647563/story.html).

PARENTING WITHOUT THE CHLOROFORM

HE SAYS ...

JOHN MAZEROLLE
METRO

When I was a kid, I could tell back-to-school time was here when we weren't allowed to eat.

Can of pop? "That's for lunches." Yogurt? "Lunches." Bacon and eggs? "Lunches." If I remember correctly, all we were allowed at home was a box of baking soda and the occasional Milk Bone.

I don't have any children, but having experienced my parents' rearing methods — discipline through starvation — I believe I have the skills necessary to help you as your child heads back to school. Here's what you need to know.

Fashion: Children's trends can be confusing, but it's important to remember that fashion is cyclical. In some eras, high school kids wear clothing so tight that they might as well be naked. Other times, they wear clothing so loose any quick movements will render them naked. They know what they're doing. I have no idea what's "in" now, but if it offends your sensibilities, pick it up. Your kid will love it.

"If you drive them to school, they will deny they have parents by leaping from the vehicle while it's in motion, sometimes through a closed window."

Supplies: Once your kids have all the "hippest duds," you'll want to get them the coolest supplies. Nothing was worse than owning plastic rulers pathetically devoid of holographic dinosaurs, or a compass that wasn't nearly sharp enough to stab the girl you liked. Buy one of those $29.99 sets with the quadratic equation written on the back, and your kids could be as cool as I was, though somehow I doubt it.

Rest: Getting kids to bed at a decent hour after a long summer can have even the most patient parents reaching for the chloroform. Researchers say you should make sure your child gets eight hours of sleep — more if you don't like them.

Don't forget to care: As the school year moves on, it's imperative you pretend you still care about your kids. After all, these are the same children that will one day be sending you to a home.

Showing your love may prove difficult. If you drive them to school, they will deny they have parents by leaping from the vehicle while it's in motion, sometimes through a closed window. And if you ask what happened at school today, they will say, "Nothin'," even if their math teacher unexpectedly burst into flames.

Despite this, support whatever they do. If they lie to the teacher, tell them they have a life as an MP ahead; if they don't show up at all, senator.

And that's the only proper way to raise your children. But remember, all these guidelines will be useless if you don't forget one important rule. You MUST feed your children, lunches be damned. A Milk Bone will clean their teeth, too.

Read more of John Mazerolle's columns at metronews.ca/hesays

Metropolitan Panel

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Should parents and students have to pay for school supplies?

87%
YES, IT'S PART OF THE COST OF PROCREATING

12%
NO, WE SHOULD ALL BE FULLY FUNDING THE EDUCATION OF OUR FUTURE CAREGIVERS

Local tweets

- **@melly_m:** We're reviewing the scramble crossings now? Quit with the trying to make me hate my city, people. #imissmylivablecity
- **@chrissyhsn:** I have literally waited at the corner when I COULD be crossing one way just to scramble cross when the light changes. #ineedhelp
- **@sirilyan:** Step 1: Eliminate Yonge/Dundas scramble. Step 2: "Look at this chaos. Even the Eaton Centre's no good to shop at." Step 3: MONORAIL
- MALL!
- **@GraphicMatt:** Yonge-Dundas = "highest pedestrian volume in Canada." Pedestrians outnumber vehicles by almost 250%
- **@HockeyTalkie:** My thoughts are with the families and friends of those lost this offseason. Their contributions on&off ice should not be forgotten #NHL #KHL
- **@adsouza93:** This offseason is getting worse every month! First the #NHL loses 3 guys, now the #KHL loses an entire team!! R.I.P. boys

Worth Mentioning

The Dalai Lama warns that all religions — including his own — have faithful who carry the seeds of destructive emotions within them.

Speaking yesterday in Montreal, the Buddhist spiritual leader said a key to promoting religious harmony after 9-11 is to stop criticizing religions based on the actions of a handful of "mischievous" followers.

He delivered his message at a conference examining how religions can foster peace in the post-9-11 world.

"Logically, if you criticize Islam due to a few mischievous Muslims, then you have to criticize all world religions," the Dalai Lama told the packed auditorium.

"That, I think is totally wrong to create that kind of negative impression to one particular religion — that is totally wrong."

He said everybody — even himself — has the potential to develop harmful feelings and it's the job of religions to try and reduce them.

"Through awareness ... we try to minimize these destructive emotions and try to increase these constructive emotions," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Cartoon by Michael de Adder

WEIRD NEWS

Being a nudist does have its drawbacks

Nudists in San Francisco might soon lose the freedom to bare it all — at least some of the time.

Walking around naked is legal, but a city supervisor concerned about public health and sanitation introduced legislation Tuesday that would require nudists to put something under their bottoms if they take a seat in public.

Supervisor Scott Wiener's proposal would also require nudists to cover up when they are in a restaurant.

Wiener represents the city's Castro District, where a group of nudists is known to gather and walk around.

The San Francisco Chronicle reports that Wiener only wants to require that nudists show basic courtesy and decency to their fellow citizens, not open up a debate on the appropriateness of public nudity.

"Only in San Francisco," Capt. Greg Corrales told the newspaper.

Just walking around naked in San Francisco isn't against the law, unless the person is aroused. Then the conduct can be considered lewd, which is illegal, according to the San Francisco Chronicle. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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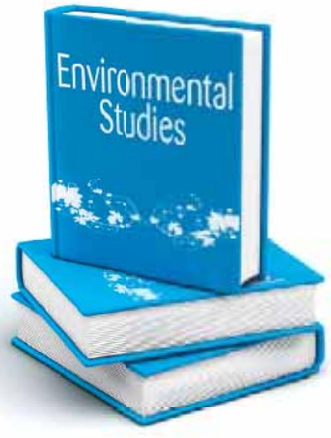

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The talented and talentless

Both groups welcome to audition for Canada's Got Talent • Tryouts to be held at Rogers Centre

ERIC LIEBOWITZ

▶ A lineup of hopefuls for the American version of Got Talent are pictured in New York.

BACKSTAGE PASS

IAN GORMELY
METRO TORONTO

Never underestimate a person's lack of self-awareness.

Nowhere is this mantra more apparent than on skill-based reality television, where a complete and utter lack of talent never fails to dissuade the talentless from auditioning.

Of course, this kind of public embarrassment is what fuels ratings for shows like American Idol and the X Factor. And soon enough you'll be able to add a new show to that list: Canada's Got Talent hits the airwaves next spring, with auditions rolling out across the country this fall.

"It blows your mind when you do a show like this, how many people think that they've got a talent and what level of excellence that may or may not be," says John Brunton, the show's executive producer and a veteran of similar reality fare. "I saw singers on (Canadian) Idol who thought they should be on the radio. It was like hearing nails on a chalkboard."

Anyone thinking of auditioning might want to consider some of Brunton's advice to avoid potential public embarrassment. Above all else, he says, the producers are looking for entertainment. They want someone who is funny or unique. And of course, they're looking for people who are outstanding in their field.

While Brunton maintains that you can't tell a book by it's cover, citing U.K. singing phenomenon Susan Boyle as proof, there are certain signs that give-away someone that's about to crash and burn.

"When the guy comes out on the stage and he can't make eye contact or the person is so nervous that you can see the sweat dripping off their nose," he says, "there are all sorts of tells."

That said, Brunton wants people to know that all are welcome to participate, no matter what their talent (or lack thereof) might be.

"We're not there to hammer people, we're there to celebrate diversity."

Auditions for Canada's Got Talent run from Sept. 27-30 at Rogers Centre.

Auditions

- Thinking of auditioning? Don't expect an Idol-like set-up with a panel of judges determining your future in the blink of an eye.
- In order to better handle the expected 20,000 entrants, every act that auditions will be taped, with judgement reserved for behind the scenes.
- A spartan team of six to 10 producers and judges will then sift through the multitude of magicians, singers and dog acts between now and Christmas, whittling thousands down to hundreds.
- Says Brunton of the numbers: "It's staggering."

2 scene

News in brief

A 36-year-old man has been charged after he allegedly broke into Celine Dion's home near Montreal, raided the fridge and even took the time to pour himself a bath.
He was nabbed by Laval police on Monday afternoon after the alarm system went off.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

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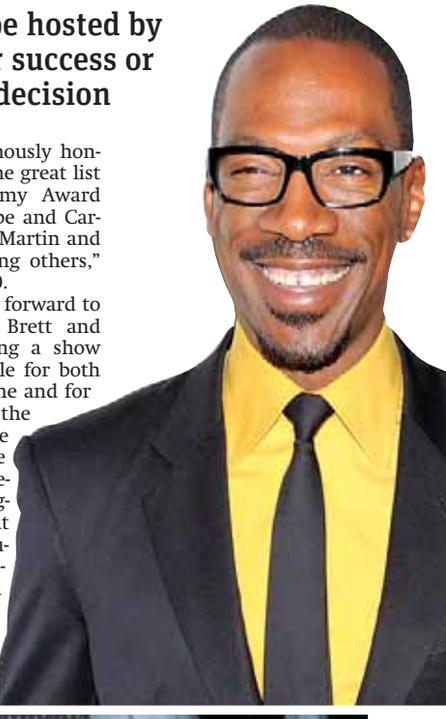
The Oscars go to

84th Academy Awards to be hosted by Eddie Murphy A recipe for success or disaster? Metro ponders the decision



Eddie Murphy has been tapped to host the 84th Annual Academy Awards, to be broadcast next year, according to the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.

"Eddie is a comedic genius, one of the greatest and most influential live performers ever," said film director Brett Ratner, who's producing the show and helmed Murphy's latest, Tower Heist.

"With his love of movies, history of crafting unforgettable characters and his iconic performances — especially onstage — I know he will bring an excitement, spontaneity and tremendous heart to the show Don and I want to produce in February."

"I am enormously honoured to join the great list of past Academy Award hosts from Hope and Carson to Crystal, Martin and Goldberg, among others," said Murphy, 50.

"I'm looking forward to working with Brett and Don on creating a show that is enjoyable for both the fans at home and for the audience at the Kodak Theatre as we all come together to celebrate and recognize the great film contributions and collaborations from the past year."

The move is thought to be an effort to in-

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... Eddie?

ject a little humour back into the event after last year's hosts Anne Hathaway and James Franco were considered flops.

In a bland performance, which the media described as all around awful, the pair bounced through a raft of skits and montages that many critics and fans found more long than laughable.

Chosen to attract a younger audience, Hathaway and Franco lacked what some described as onscreen chemistry.

With a similarly lacklustre showing from Steve Martin and Alec Baldwin in 2010, organizers are banking on Murphy to restore the golden age of Oscar nights, when big-draws such as Whoopi Goldberg and Billy Crystal effortlessly brought the house down among even the most demanding of crowds.

"I am enormously honoured to join the great list of past Academy Award hosts from Hope and Carson to Crystal..."

EDDIE MURPHY

Murphy was nominated for a Best Supporting Actor Oscar for Dreamgirls in 2006.

He was said to have walked out of the show after losing to Little Miss Sunshine star Alan Arkin.

METRO

Yes, but

Eddie Murphy to host Oscars. Good choice?

- **YES** Murphy is cool and confident live. If you have never seen his stand-up special Delirious or his skits on Saturday Night Live, go to YouTube immediately.
- **BUT** You can't f-ing swear on live TV.
- **YES** He's a part of movie history. Beverly Hills Cop, 48 Hours, The Nutty Professor and Shrek are all classics.
- **BUT** Vampire in Brooklyn, Metro, Doctor Dolittle, Holy Man, Life, Doctor Dolittle 2, Showtime, The Adventures of Pluto Nash, I Spy, Daddy Day Care, The Haunted Mansion, Norbit, Meet Dave, Imagine That.
- **YES** Murphy was nominated for a Best Supporting Actor Oscar in 2006, for Dreamgirls
- **BUT** He walked out of the show after Alan Arkin won for Little Miss Sunshine. Maybe he just wanted some ice cream?

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The little horror movie that could

Creature not exactly a generic horror film, says Canadian actor Dillon Casey

Movie set for release tomorrow

CHRIS ALEXANDER
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

How a kid from Oakville ended up in the Louisiana swamps filming a gloriously trashy monster movie is a story in itself, but such is the legacy of Canadian actor — and sometimes writer and director — Dillon Casey.

Casey, already a veteran TV performer from such glossy shows as Being Erica and The Vampire Diaries, stars as one of the slew of youthful anti-heroes who come face to face with a lethal reptilian monster in Creature, a nifty new low budget shocker co-starring genre icon Sid Haig, opening across North America this Friday.

"The first thing I noticed when I read the script was the name (of producer) Sid Sheinberg," says Casey, back in Toronto for his recurring role in the CTV hit series Nikita.

"I mean, he's a legend

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PHOTOS CONTRIBUTED

▶ The monster from Creature is pictured. At right, Canadian actor Dillon Casey.

… he was the head of Universal pictures. He was behind Jaws."

Sheinberg's name no doubt pushed writer/director Fred Andrew's little horror movie that could into the higher profile release it's getting this week, but outside of the pedigree, Creature is an eccentric, interesting, unpretentious and often eerie thriller.

"(Creature) looks like a generic horror film on the surface," notes the actor.

"But there are many twists and turns and unexpected elements that elevate it."

Casey was bit by the acting bug when studying at the University of Toronto and found he had the chops — and the looks — to make a living pretending to be other people. But originally, his role in Creature called for a very different face.

"My character was fat, nerdy and I really didn't think I had a chance of getting it," he says.

"But then I got the call that I did. I was surprised. Later on the set, Fred said that the reason I got the roll was that I nailed it on the call back. I kept quiet at first but I eventually told Fred that I didn't actually get brought in for a call back. So really … he probably cast the wrong guy for the role by mistake!"

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To hell and back with Royce da 5'9"

Royce da 5'9" grows up, and so does his music ◗ He reflects on getting over his troubles ◗ Talks about beef with Eminem and bond with his son

From the first moment Detroit rapper Royce da 5'9" met Eminem — "a skinny white kid pushing mixtapes" at an Usher gig in 1997 — he saw the potential in him.

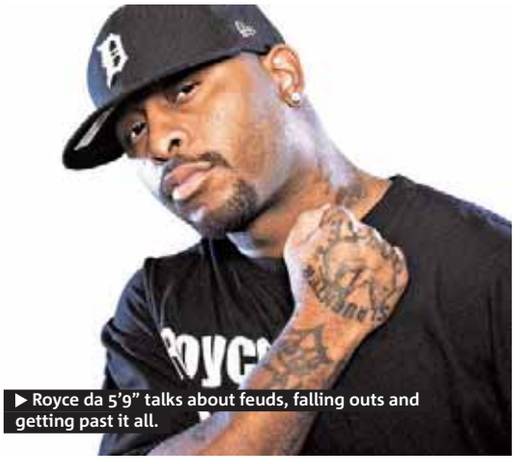
Royce says they've both evolved in the 14 years that have passed. The pair had a falling out and feuded for a while, but now are so tight they put out a successful joint album, Hell: The Sequel, over the summer as Bad Meets Evil. And the iconic rapper has given Royce plenty of grown-up advice as his success grows, with his recently released third studio album, Success Is Certain, and work on new material with his group Slaughterhouse (Joe Budden, Crooked I, Joell Ortiz).

"He's a lot different, a lot more mature, but still the same funny guy, still the same sense of humour. He's just an adult now and so am I," he said of Eminem.

The 34-year-old Royce talked about their relationship, his own growing pains and his bond with his 13-year-old son in a recent interview.

How did you sort out your feud with Eminem?

GETTY IMAGES



▶ Royce da 5'9" talks about feuds, falling outs and getting past it all.

It kind of sorted itself out. A lot things transpire, time heals everything. It wasn't anything that he did to me or anything that I did to him ... We just kind of grew apart at that moment. There was lot going on, a lot of money got thrown into the middle, a lot of other people involved. I think once we lost Proof (the rapper was killed in 2006), the D12 guys were real instrumental in kind of bringing us back together. They always knew how close we were. And once I squashed the beef with them, they were real verbal with going to him and saying 'Look, we're not beefing with Royce no more, there's not a problem anymore.' And I think just one day he just decided he was going to call me, so he called me.

Your last album, Death Is Certain was a very dark album. What are you rapping about now?

With the Death Is Certain album, I spoke about a lot of the mistakes I was making, like the dark cloud that I felt was hovering over my head. Failure, negativity, beef, and this album is you know, looking back ... and reflecting on that; speaking of triumph, overcoming adversity, leaping over hurdles. I still try to maintain the dark feel sonically, but content-wise, I just wanted to make it a little bit brighter.

Does your son ever influence your music?

I try not to let it influence my music. I try to live a double life, as horrible as that sounds. I try not to be Royce da 5'9" in my home; I try to just be Ryan Montgomery. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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In Vinyl Tap Stories, Randy Bachman tells 50 years of rock 'n' roll tales Filled with stories of musicians

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Randy Bachman

Winnipeg rocker Randy Bachman offers a lifetime of rock 'n' roll memories in his new book, which is full of such minute details as Little Richard's habit of toting a travelling makeup case, Johnny and the Hurricanes' fondness for Bachman's mother's homemade perogies, and the Pointer Sisters volunteering to clean up Bachman's then-three-year-old daughter after a bout of car sickness.

But how does Bachman — who will be 68 later this month — remember his past with such stunning clarity?

"I've never done any drugs, I've never drank, I've never smoked — so I think I remember the '60s like nobody else remembers them. And the '70s and the '80s," the affable rocker said during a recent promotional stop in Toronto.

"When I left the Guess Who, it was the summer of 1970 — that was the height of 'drugedelia': hash, grass, pills, Quaaludes, acid, LSD, things like that. I was allergic to smoke so I never smoked anything, and then I saw my friends having radical personality changes, even when they would drink heavily."

Aside from Bachman's tales of other musicians, his book also delves into his own songwriting catalogue. For instance, in Takin' Care of Business, it features a piano solo played by a pizza deliveryman who wandered into Kaye-Smith Studios in Seattle.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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DiCaprio turns up the charm

Leo gifts Blake Lively's dad at birthday party
Rumoured couple are 'smitten' with each other

While Leonardo DiCaprio may have been filming in Australia during rumoured girlfriend Blake Lively's birthday — she celebrated with pals in New York — he was at least on hand last month for her father's big day in Los Angeles, where he reportedly gifted the senior Lively with an elaborate colouring book, according to Us Weekly.

"Blake's father loved it," a source says, adding that the alleged couple are getting pretty cosy. "(They) are so smitten it's crazy. I bet they get engaged in the next six months."

METRO

ALL PHOTOS/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Leonardo DiCaprio gave Blake Lively's father an elaborate colouring book for his birthday.

Polley is preggers

Canadian actor-filmmaker Sarah Polley is pregnant.

A publicist for Polley's new film Take This Waltz, which debuts at the Toronto International Festival this weekend, says Polley is 3 1/2 months along.

She's expecting a child with David Sandomierski, whom she married two weeks ago north of Toronto.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Celebrity tweets

"I don't know if I can do this show tomorrow I have eaten too much queso"

@katyperry

@JimCarrey

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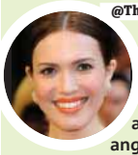

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"Trying to find a home for an adorable orange kitten found on the street. If you live in LA area"

@SethMacFarlane

"America should have the President it really wants...The problem is, in our heart of hearts, that's Snooki"

Hannigan puts pregnancy rumours to rest

Alyson Hannigan took to Twitter to clear up pregnancy rumours after a photo of her where she appeared to be sporting a baby bump popped up online.

"No, I'm not pregnant! I just ate too much carnival food, that time of the month, hurt my back and couldn't suck my gut in — and need to do cardio," the How I Met Your Mother star posted in response.

"And I'm never going to wear that shirt again. I do look pregnant in that photo!"

METRO

▶ Alyson Hannigan blames too much carnival food for an unflattering photo that sparked pregnancy rumours.

▶ Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel were reportedly hitting it off again at a friend's wedding in Colorado.

Jessica, Justin back on again?

Justin Timberlake and Jessica Biel are fueling speculation that they're back on again.

The pair hit up a friend's wedding in Colorado over the weekend, and the possibly reunited couple definitely seemed to be enjoying each other's company, according to People magazine.

"There was plenty of PDA, and they seemed happy," a source says.

METRO

Madge isn't gaga for pop rival

Lady Gaga has made it clear that she's possibly Madonna's biggest fan, but the same apparently can't be said for Madonna's feelings about Lady Gaga.

"As for Lady Gaga, I have no comment to make about her obsessions having to do with me because I don't know whether her behaviour is rooted in something deep and meaningful or superficial," Madonna tells French newspaper Le Soir.

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AARON HARRIS/TORONTO STAR

▶ Brad Pitt arrives for the gala premiere of Burn After Reading at the Toronto International Film Festival in 2008.

Star hunting

From the best swag to the hottest screenings and parties, Metro has this year's festival covered Find out how to score last-minute tickets to the most popular films And if you're planning on star hunting, find out which celebrities will be in town for the 11-day film fest — from Kiera Knightley to Ryan Gosling

The girls

The biggest question on our minds is whether Madonna can get a warmer reception for her latest directing effort, W.E., than it received last week in Venice, where critics and audiences alike were a bit less-than-kind to the film (about British Royal Family disruptor Wallace Simpson).

Expected to fare better are a slew of young British talents, including Emily Blunt, who has both Your Sister's Sister and Salmon Fishing in Yemen in the festival. Fellow Brit Carey Mulligan will be in town to show off Drive and Shame, while her Never Let Me Go co-star, Kiera Knightley, squares off with Jung and Freud in A Dangerous Method. But the real Brit to watch is Felicity Jones, whose performance opposite Anton Yelchin in Like Crazy was strong enough to earn her a Special Jury Prize at Sundance earlier this year.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Kiera Knightley

There's plenty of female talent from this side of the Atlantic, of course. Marisa Tomei and Evan Rachel Wood hold their own against some impressive male co-stars in Ides of March, while Glenn Close dons drab drag in the period piece Albert Nobbs. And hometown girl Sarah Polley is unveiling her second directorial project, Take This Waltz. METRO

The guys

Brad Pitt will be in town to support his baseball passion project, Moneyball, but will the whole Jolie-Pitt clan be in tow? Jolie, Pitt and their six kids tend to travel as a unit — with a small army of bodyguards and nannies — so be on the lookout.

GETTY IMAGES

▶ Ryan Gosling

With two films being featured (Alexander Payne's The Descendants and his own Ides of March), George Clooney will be all over Toronto, as will his Ides' co-star, Ryan Gosling, who's also pulling double duty with the critically acclaimed Drive. Clooney doesn't often make appearances outside of festivals and awards shows, so get him while you can. X-Men standout Michael Fassbender will also be on hand to represent both Shame and A Dangerous Method.

Other big names heading to town include Antonio Banderas, starring in Pedro Almodovar's The Skin I Live In, while Gerard Butler will be all over town promoting his true-life tale, Machine Gun Preacher. And the British action thriller Killer Elite brings the macho trifecta of Jason Statham, Clive Owen and Robert DeNiro. METRO

TIFF's top flicks

The sheer number of films playing at the Festival is staggering, and a quick glance at the schedule can send the casual moviegoer running. But fear not! Here's our list of the films you should make it your business to check out.

SUBMITTED

▶ Jennifer Garner in Butter

Butter
It may look weird on paper — a satire about an uptight housewife (Jennifer Garner) who takes on a freakishly talented black orphan in an annual butter-sculpting competition — but Butter is brilliant and biting, and unlike anything else out there.

Drive
Nicolas Winding Refn's stylized, stomach-tightening flick about a nearly mute stunt driver (Ryan Gosling) who moonlights as a getaway driver more than lives up to the hype, bringing several critics back for repeat viewings since its debut at the Los Angeles Film Festival in June.

50/50
While we wish they'd kept the original title, I'm With Cancer, this moving and funny look at a young man (Gordon-Levitt) dealing with a cancer diagnosis from writer and real-life cancer surviver Will Reiser is not to be missed. Gordon-Levitt cements his status as one of the best young actors today.

We Need to Talk About Kevin
Things get heavy in this adaptation of a best-selling novel about a divorced couple (Tilda Swinton and John C. Reilly) dealing with the aftermath of their son's violent outburst. There's been nomination buzz for both the leads practically since the project was announced.

The Artist
A French silent film? In 2011? Sure! This unconventional, black-and-white Cannes favourite from director Michel Hazanavicius has had festival audiences buzzing. The supporting cast includes Malcolm MacDowell, John Goodman and James Cromwell.

Martha Marcy Mae Marlene
The harrowing story of a girl (the transfixing Elizabeth Olson) who escapes a cult but can't get the experiences out of her head will get in your head, too. The film features a standout performance by Oscar-nominee John Hawkes as creepy cult leader. NED EHRBAR

metro ChickAdvisor

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Which celeb would you ask to be your date to TIFF?

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Get your swag on

With fame and fortune comes ... free stuff Here's what celebs are getting in this year's TIFF goody bags

Tastemakers Lounge
At this pampering pad for TIFF's famous faces, VIPs have the chance to walk away with, among other goodies, frames from Wescan Optical, a John Frieda Volume Curls curling iron, a pair of jeans from Mavi and a self-styled charm bracelet by Pandora.

Mixing good with gifting, Tastemakers will make a donation this year to CNIB, which provides services to people who are blind.

Swarovski Fashion Suite
With years of bringing bling to TIFF's big-screen bashes under its belt, jewelry giant Swarovski is ready once again to help the brightest stars sparkle.

Selected invitees to this swank suite have the chance to gaze at Daniel Swarovski's hand-crafted Catwalk Collection and borrow the label's statement-making Wings of Fantasy Fall/Winter line for the red carpet. Theatrical, mysterious and captivating, celebs who don themselves in this latest line of jewels are sure to feel like a million bucks.

Bask-it-Style
Taking the stress right out of swag, celebs will have one of Bask-it-Style's lavish loot bags hand-delivered to their hotel suite.

Stuffed inside, stars will find a variety of John Frieda hair products, Diesel tote bags, FemFab Canada Classic Line T-shirts and gift certificates from Blo Blow Dry Bar.

Teaming up with charitable partners Hope 4 Help and Windfall, Bask-it-Style will not only give this year, but encourage giving back.

IT Lounge Gift Bag
Known for its cool, casual atmosphere, visitors to this year's IT Lounge will get the chance to grab fashionable gear from the likes of RW&CO, Fila and Coccinelle, and beautify themselves with free booty from Stila Cosmetics, Ardell Lashes and Goody.

One of the first lounges in North America to have a charitable component, the IT Lounge is proud to pair up this year with Artists for Peace and Justice as well as Camp Oochigeas, which provides an outdoor camp experience for children with cancer.

Premier Celebrity Gift and Style Lounge
Making its debut as a first-time gift granter, this suite is bound to have something for even the most swagged-out superstar.

The lounge will focus on original, sustainable, ecofriendly and high-end products (think wearable art by Micalla Jewelry or loungewear-inspired lingerie by Canadian line dear frankie). ELIZABETH BEDDALL

Follow Metro on Twitter, @metrotiff, during the Toronto International Film Festival for the latest, from parties to screenings to press conferences. And be sure to Tweet us any of your celeb sightings — photos too — and we may print them in the paper.

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Scoring tickets

The most popular films will likely be sold out weeks in advance.

But here's how to get tickets to the sold-out screenings at this year's festival.

There's still a chance to get tickets at the Bell Lightbox box office.

Newly available tickets are released at 7 a.m. the day of the screening.

True fans can also line up at the venue for a chance to grab some "rush" seats, which are released just 15 minutes before the screening, though be prepared to line up several hours earlier for popular shows.

For additional ticket information, visit tiff.net.

METRO

Swag Pick

Mereadesso's Face and Neck Cleanser

Famous females checking into their hotel suites today may be pleasantly surprised to be presented with Mèreadesso's Face and Neck Cleanser (valued at $45).

Tucked within Bask-it-Style's hand-delivered swag bundle, this non-foaming all-in-one makeup remover, mask, scrub and toner will even conquer the waterproof mascara Miss Movie Star used on her Toronto-bound plane ride.

TIFF at a glance. Today and tomorrow

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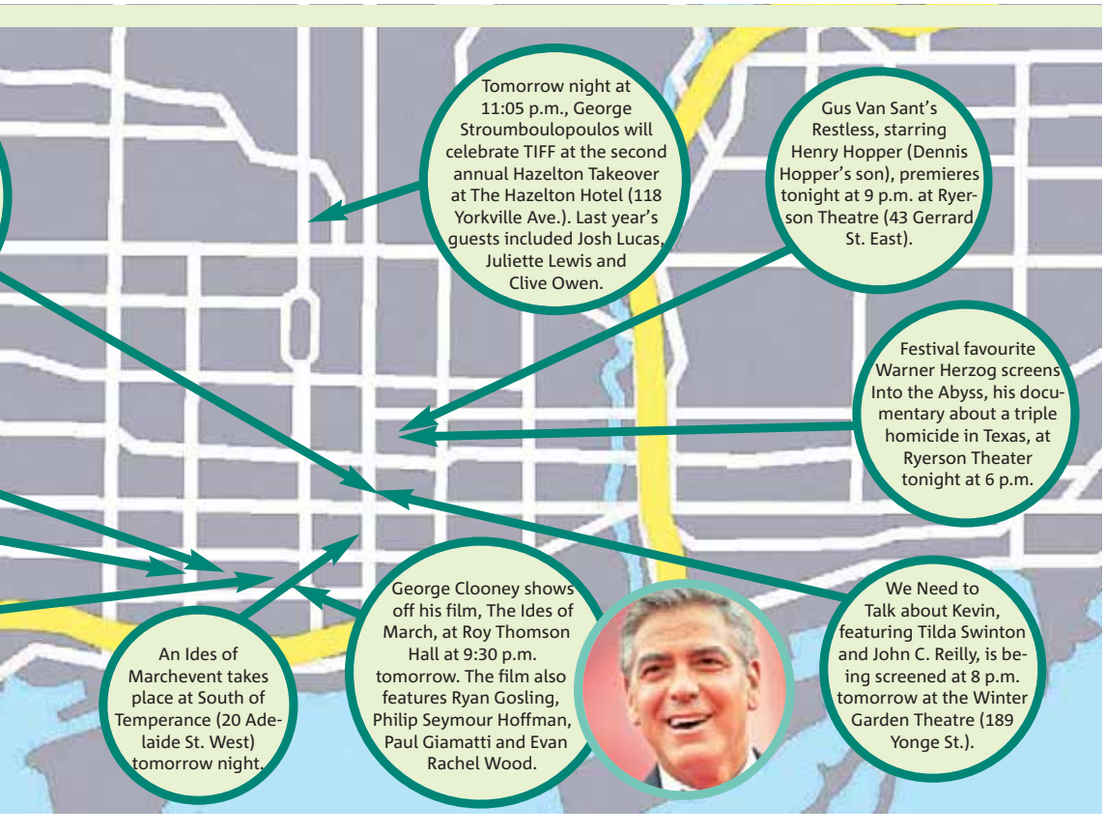

Drink Pick: The Drake

Rickety Rickshaw

Ingredients :

- 1 ½ oz vodka
- ½ oz Domaine de Canton ginger liqueur
- 1 bar spoon lemongrass and ginger syrup (recipe here: tgam.com/cocktails)
- 1 ⅓ oz jasmine green tea
- ½ oz lemon juice
- 2 dashes grapefruit bitters

Preparation:

Shake ingredients over ice. Strain into a coupette (margarita-style glassware). Garnish with a few large slices of lemongrass.

CONNIE TSANG

By the numbers

Here's a look at the 11-day TIFF marathon by the numbers, with last year's figures in brackets:

- Total number of films: 336 (339)
- Number of feature films: 268 (258)
- Number of short films: 68 (81)
- Length of longest film: 15 hours, "The Story of Film: An Odyssey." Last year the longest was 4.5 hours.
- Length of shortest film: Two of this year's films clock in at one minute: "349 (for Sol LeWitt)" and "Ars Colonia." Last year, the shortest was just 20 seconds.
- Number of Canadian features, including co-productions: 34 (30)

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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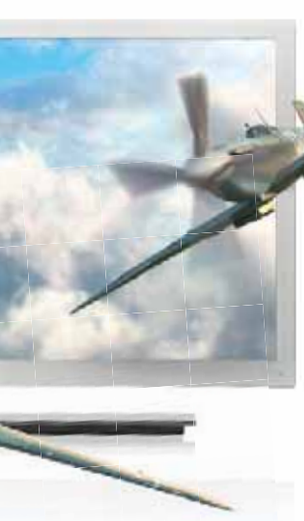

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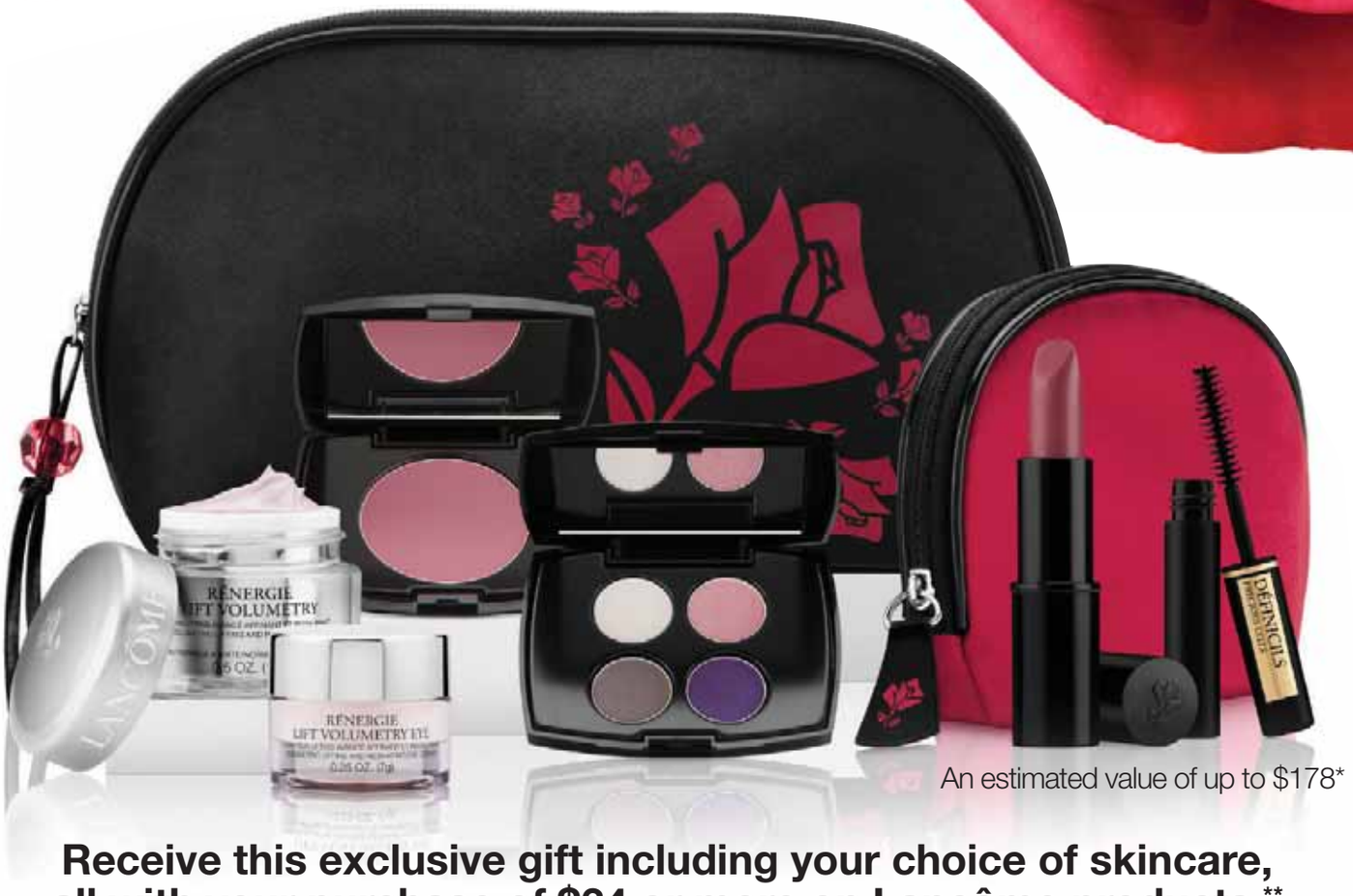

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Sears Canada Inc.

5 young names to know in fashion this month

TINA CHADHA
@METRO.LU
METRO WORLD NEWS

1 Master tailor: Antonio Azzuolo

The CFDA men's wear nominee cut his teeth designing for brands such as Hermès and Kenzo before landing the design director role at Ralph Lauren's Purple and Black Label. But the Montreal native's experience began much earlier — his dad was a master tailor. Now Azzuolo creates glamorous, luxe essentials for his own line, a.a.

2 Ladies man: Guillaume Henry

When Henry took over French label Carven, his collection was so spot on that you would have thought he took his hip, arty girlfriends out for a round of drinks and then took their wardrobe complaints and wish lists to the atelier. His clothes are sweet and yet a little bit dark, chic and still slightly punky. It's no wonder girls like Alexa Chung can't get enough.

3 Indie darling: Suzanne Rae

Suzanne Pelaez, a Parsons grad, started out by working in New York's art gallery circuit. And you can see the influence in her flair for print and pattern. Her slightly experimental ready-to-wear pieces would look at home in any curator's closet (or that of any girl with a confident sense of personal style, really). Pelaez worked brief stints at Costume National and Morgane le Fay before quickly striking out on her own. Smart choice. We're writing about her, after all.

4 The romantics: Creatures of the Wind

Chicago-based designers Shane Gabier and Christopher Peters wooed editors and buyers alike at New York Fashion Week last season for being very, well, un-New York. Their romantic and quirky collection inspired by Nantucket and the sailors' widows featured Victorian silhouettes, lace and bright colours. It also landed them on the cover of WWD and a CFDA nomination this year. Well played, guys. Well played.

5 Futuristic femme: Sally LaPointe

Dubbed as a one-to-watch by Elle and New York magazine, this Massachusetts native's signature style is a mix of both futuristic (think: big, bold shoulders) and feminine silhouettes (sexy, drapey dresses) Add some in-your-face colours, prints and fabrics and you have what might be the perfect wardrobe for show stoppers such as Beyoncé and Lady Gaga — the latter is already a loyal LaPointe customer.

3 life

Kanye style

Where are you Yeezy?

The rumours about Kanye West's alleged stint as a designer changes by the day. He's making shoes! No. Clothes! He's making them with designer Louise Goldin! No. Design professor Louise Wilson (she denied it)! So?? METRO

Harper's Bazaar editor-in-chief Glenda Bailey picks mag's Greatest Hits for new book

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Three front-row rule breakers

MICKEY BOARDMAN

- About Paper magazine's columnist we've got four words: Look at this outfit. Enough said.

LYNN YAEGER

- She's got a writing style that is as distinct as her subversive Victorian doll look. We'd recognize that rosebud pout anywhere.

GRACE CODDINGTON

- The September Issue was ages ago, but we're still crushing on Coddington's trademark fiery mane.

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BACK TO SCHOOL

COMSTOCK/THINKSTOCK

Establish good homework habits

Independent work and learning are important assets It's a form of self-organization and self-discipline

ASTRID VAN DEN BROEK
FOR METRO

This year, you will do it right. This year, they will do their homework without question. Or begging. Or threatening.

But how exactly can we encourage our kids to tackle their homework and set good homework habits?

First, realize why homework is part of your child's life. It's not always about just keeping up on the topics of study at school.

"Independent work and learning are important assets for people to develop, whether it's in academic institutions or workplaces. It's a form of self-organization and self-discipline and it's something that requires development," says Alyson Schafer, a Toronto-based psychotherapist and author of Ain't Misbehavin'.

"So, if we can help them develop better homework habits, they're going to be ultimately more desirable in the workplace."

To help start this year's homework habits off right, begin by showing enthusiasm for their school work and developing a positive attitude about education.

"Sometimes, as parents we have to put our own baggage about school away because you want your child to have a positive relationship with school," says Pat Stellick, the Mississauga-based co-ordinating elementary school principal for the Peel District School Board.

Start by asking about their day — what was exciting for you? What was the high point of your day? "That extends learning," says Stellick. "Homework also makes that connection between home and school and it helps parents understand what's going on in class during the day."

Schafer shares her tips on positively encouraging your child to do schoolwork.

1 Be in touch with the school. Through parent-teacher nights and any other opportunities that arise. That way you can keep on top of what's going on in your child's classroom.

2 Coach instead of dictate. "Different kids have different learning styles and they have different ways of being successful with their workload," says Schafer. Help them find out how they learn best — when are they successful? What do they need to stay organized?

3 Empower them. Help your child figure out solutions on when is best for them to do their homework. (Right after school or after supper for example?) "Keep the responsibility of finding the solution with your child," says Schafer.

Teach children with litterless lunches

Ditching paper bags, juice boxes, plastic cutlery, paper napkins and other non-recyclable items from school lunch boxes is becoming the next trend for parents to digest as another school year approaches.

These suggestions appear in a new cookbook, Good Food To Go: Healthy Lunches Your Kids Will Love, by Brenda Bradshaw and Dr. Cheryl Mutch (Random House Canada, $23.95, paperback).

"A child packing an old-fashioned brown bag lunch with a juice box or tin can can make an estimated 67 pounds (30 kilograms) of waste over a year," says Bradshaw, an elementary school teacher who collaborated on the book with Mutch, a consultant pediatrician. Both live in Vancouver and have two children each.

"What we are trying to do is encourage parents and their children to create litterless lunches," says Bradshaw. "It is a good way to teach your children about environmental stewardship and how their choices can impact the environment."

Instead of buying plastic containers, the authors suggest choosing those that are bisphenol A (BPA) free. Lids should be leakproof, but accessible so children can open them with ease.

Purchase a wide-mouth, stainless-steel bottle and Thermos, cloth napkins and metal cutlery, they say.

The book also addresses such issues as choosing and packing healthy nutritious lunches that will be eaten.

"First of all, we know children are more likely to eat lunches that they have helped to prepare," says Bradshaw. "Talk to them about what foods they like to try and incorporate their preferences in the lunch box." THE CANADIAN PRESS

DIGITAL VISION/THINKSTOCK

▶ Litterless lunches can help teach children learn about how choices can impact the environment.

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Tips for after-school success

JANE DOUCET
FOR METRO

JUPITERIMAGES/PIXLAND/THINKSTOCK

▶ Taking part in extracurricular activities offers many benefits to students.

Soon after Judy Arnall's third son started playing soccer at age six, he wanted to stop. Arnall had assumed that because his older brothers had wanted to play, he would, too. She was wrong, but she didn't let him quit.

Instead, Arnall attended every game and practice with him until the season ended.

"We were both miserable," says Arnall, a Calgary-based parenting expert whose most recent book is The Last Word On Parenting Advice.

"I learned that even if you want to expose your child to new experiences that will develop their talents, it has to be something they're interested in."

Arnall offers the following tips on what to consider when choosing an after-school activity:

Get your child to buy in. "Ask what they want to do," says Arnall. If you push them into an activity they don't like, it will cause resentment and power struggles. "I tell parents, if you want your child in hockey because you like hockey, you should be the one registering to play for a team."

Consider cost. If your daughter refuses to practise the piano anymore, you have to ask yourself how much money you are willing to sacrifice on the remaining lessons if you let her quit midway through the term. "It's a good idea to ask about refund policies before you commit," says Arnall. "Although very few programs offer full or even partial refunds."

Implement the "begging rule." If Arnall's children really want to sign up for sports or music lessons, they have to ask for them — more than once, over a period of several weeks. "Then I know it's not just a passing fancy and they're really interested," she says.

Have your child contribute. Some money toward the extracurricular activity, that is. "Using some of their allowance or birthday money to help pay for their lessons will help give them a sense of ownership," says Arnall.

Life lessons

▶ Taking part in extracurricular activities offers many benefits to students. From learning team-building skills to gaining self-esteem, there are few downsides when young people take part in after-school sports, bands, teams or clubs. Kids will learn how to manage their time and the value of making long-term commitments, among other important life lessons.

Ease into the new academic year schedule

Your summer was packed with late night soccer games and cottage weekends. But then, come the start of September, your family is up at 7 a.m. every day in order to (just barely) make it to school on time.

How can you get used to this schedule again? Fortunately, time is on your side.

"Parents have to adjust their expectations because it takes pretty much up until the Christmas break to settle into the school year from a behavioural point of view," says Alyson Schafer, a Toronto-based psychotherapist and author of Ain't Misbehavin'.

To ease into the "academic new year," start by cooling yourself off first.

"After a summer of high entertainment ... kids are now back in this environment with suddenly stressed parents ..."
ALYSON SCHAFER, PSYCHOTHERAPIST

"After a summer of high entertainment and leisurely schedules, kids are now back in this environment with suddenly stressed parents who are trying to do it all," says Schafer. "Kids think: Mom and dad were so happy and jovial and now they're yelling at me to get out because we're going to be late."

That mood change can trickle down to the kids and trigger misbehaviours such as dawdling and sleep disturbances. And for your children, depending on their age, pitch in to help ease anxiety. And if you haven't already, start backing up those bedtimes — and wake-up times — so they can get to class on time.

TIPS TO EASE INTO THE SCHOOL YEAR

1 Take the week off. If you can. This lightens your schedule so you can focus on getting your kids back into school mode. Can't do it? At least avoid non-family commitments such as dinner parties this school week.

2 Give yourself a buffer. Transitions take time, notes Schafer. So build time buffers into your schedule to avoid being stressed over scheduling.

3 Take September to train your kids. Want them to put their backpacks away after school? Empty lunch containers into the kitchen sink? "You have to train them in the first few weeks of September. It's an upfront-loaded way of parenting but you will get that parenting time back later," says Schaefer.

ASTRID VAN DEN BROEK

HEMERA TECHNOLOGIES/PHOTOS.COM/THINKSTOCK

▶ It's OK to let your children stop an activity they don't appear to be enjoying, an expert says.

Sometimes it's best to let kids make the choice

You signed up your elementary school-aged daughter to play hockey at the local rink, paid the registration fee for the season and bought her equipment. Then, after three practices, she announces she hates hockey and wants to quit. Should you let her?

Yes, says Calgary-based parenting expert Judy Arnall.

"I wouldn't force a child to continue if he or she really doesn't want to, because there are other ways to teach discipline, such as through chores and volunteering," she says. "For younger kids in particular, I think going to a new activity three times is giving it a fair chance."

If your son says he no longer wants to play trumpet in the school band, it's important to ask him why not. "Maybe there's a mean kid in the band who's making him unhappy," says Arnall. "It might not have anything to do with him not liking the trumpet."

If that's the case, parents can help their child find a better solution to the situation than quitting.

If the child has truly lost interest in the activity, it's best to let him or her drop it. Parents should keep in mind that nagging a child to practise piano scales or pack their hockey bag before practice isn't the same as reminding them.

"If you find yourself having to nag, then your interest in your child's activity has become greater than theirs, and it's time to consider letting them quit," says Arnall.

The good news is that just because kids quit a few activities during their school years it doesn't mean they will end up quitting all of their jobs. Plus, people sometimes take up activities they dropped as youngsters when they become adults. "You can learn anything at any age," says Arnall.

JANE DOUCET

When it's OK to stop

According to American child psychologist David Elkind, the author of The Hurried Child, children ages nine and younger typically don't have a clear sense yet of what kinds of activities they will like and stick with. He believes it's fine for them to give up the activity if they don't appear to be enjoying it.

JANE DOUCET

Distraction
... or functional tool?

Parents and teachers are having to deal with students texting, using cellphones in school

ISTOCKPHOTO/THINKSTOCK

Danny Faria allowed his daughter to have a mobile phone at the tender age of 10. He knew she was mature enough to walk to school on her own, but felt he would be more at ease if she called home once at her destination.

Many parents and teachers who grew up without electronic devices at their disposal are having to deal with tech-savvy kids who want the latest gadgets for school.

Faria, a Toronto-based communications consultant, and his wife were strict about the phone being used only as a necessity. They disabled the texting function and reminded their daughter, Emily, that the phone was to be turned off during school hours.

The rules were working well for everyone until this past August, when 11-year-old Emily's pal upgraded her mobile phone. The friend gave her old phone — one with a slide-out keyboard for texting — to Emily.

Faria then had to deal with the inevitable: "How come I can't text?"

Jesse Hirsh, a technology analyst in Toronto, says kids are taking their tech cues from adults. They see their parents and other people continually talking or texting and, as a result, "kids have internalized the ADD (attention deficit disorder) of society."

Kids have dozens of different things competing for their attention, Hirsh says, and they can be fickle as to whom, when and where they give it. This can be a problem when it comes to school curriculum and teaching.

Students today don't have any lag time between wanting to know and then discovering the information. With cellphones, Hirsh says, "they have the fantastic in their pocket."

Some teachers don't agree. "The pocket isn't fantastic," says Domenico Capilongo, a high-school teacher in Thornhill.

"They aren't searching for knowledge when they pull out their phone. They are texting about each other.

"The real issue is how to keep (cellphones) from turning into a distraction. It's hard to compete with a text from a boyfriend."

Distractions caused by cellphones used outside the classroom or home can also potentially prove to be a safety hazard, a new Canadian poll suggests — risks that are not always front of mind for parents.

A Safe Kids Canada/FedEx Express Canada survey of more than 1,000 Canadian parents of children aged five to 14 found that nine in 10 have discussed basic pedestrian practices with their children. However, only 28 per cent of those polled have discussed the risks of cellphone use while crossing the street.

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PHOTOS BY AARON VINCENT ELKAIM/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Some fresh foods ready for the freezer.

Cool tool for healthy eating

For many parents, packing kids' lunches for school means scouring the kitchen to see what can be thrown together. But often overlooked is the freezer, which, with a little thought and organization, can make the daily digs yield good, healthy food.

"The freezer is great for giving you variety," says Crystal Asher, who owns Detour Roasters Cafe with her husband in Dundas, Ont., and is a mother of three girls. "Think of it as a closet full of outfits. Think of your freezer, fridge and pantry the same way. You have to look at your food and think, 'What else can I do with this?'"

For Asher, this means employing the right tools to help you. Ice cube trays repurposed during the baby years to freeze homemade fruit or vegetable purees can be reused once kids grow older. Asher makes sweet potato or roasted pepper purees, freezes them in ice cube trays, and defrosts them when she needs a sandwich spread for lunch.

"It's a good way of ramping up the nutritional value," she says.

She also makes larger-than-needed portions of soup and freezes the leftovers in ice cube trays. When needed, she will pop out four cubes in the morning. Once heated up, this amount is enough to fill an insulated food container.

Asher also takes advantage of fresh local fruits and vegetables in the summer, preserving them, cooking them and freezing them.

"The season in Ontario is brief but bountiful," says Asher. "Otherwise, you're eating apples and pears for eight months of the year."

While the ice cube tray is a useful tool, Lulu Cohen-Farnell, founder and president of Real Food for Real Kids, which caters fresh food using local ingredients to schools,

camps and daycares in and around Toronto, prefers using freezer bags in her home kitchen.

"You can get more into them, they can lie flat, and you can stack them so you have more room in your freezer," says Cohen-Farnell, a mother to two kids.

She regularly cleans, chops and freezes fresh herbs, vegetables and fruits, and carves out sections of her freezer for each.

"At home, I'll buy fresh herbs and ingredients like scallions, ginger, parsley, cilantro or mint to enhance the taste of my food," says Cohen-Farnell. "I'll use them fresh, but I'll buy double and freeze them for when I don't have time or to have just as a resource."

There's no need to defrost the frozen herbs, and this allows her to sprinkle portions of the herbs into sauces or soups.

When it comes to fruit, she peels and chops just about anything for freezing: Bananas, blueberries, peaches and pineapples, for example. On any given morning, this gives her the versatility to throw one or two fruits into the blender, along with some rice milk, and the frozen fruit eliminates the need to add ice.

She does the same for leafy vegetables such as kale and collard greens, which can be added to soups, stews and smoothies. "Not everyone knows what to do with some of these greens, which might be a bit bitter, but by freezing them chopped, they are more adaptable."

Fresh food is always best, of course, but the freezer can play a useful role in meal preparations, for kids' and parents' lunches alike. "You need to have inspiration when you make a meal," says Cohen-Farnell. "And your ingredients are what will inspire you." THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Lulu Cohen-Farnell, who owns the company Real Food for Real Kids, prepares some food to freeze at her home kitchen. Cohen-Farnell freezes food to make it faster to prepare school lunches for her children.

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EXPOse yourself to Vaughan

The project overview

EXPO City is the first development of five condominium towers to transform more than 300 hectares in Vaughan into a new residential hub for the GTA.

Inspired by water, the 37-storey building is designed by architect Alan Tregebov.

DUNCAN MCALLISTER

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Location and transit

Plans are underway to transform Hwy. 7 into a tree-lined avenue with dedicated VIVA rapid transit bus lanes converging at the Vaughan Metropolitan Centre.

The future expansion of the Spadina subway line up to Hwy. 7 will add six new stops.

In the neighbourhood

With over 14 acres of naturalized space including a sprawling central park, there are recreational trails, ponds, and protected wildlife areas nearby.

The master plan includes an urban square, retail galleria and a pedestrian and bike-friendly grand boulevard.

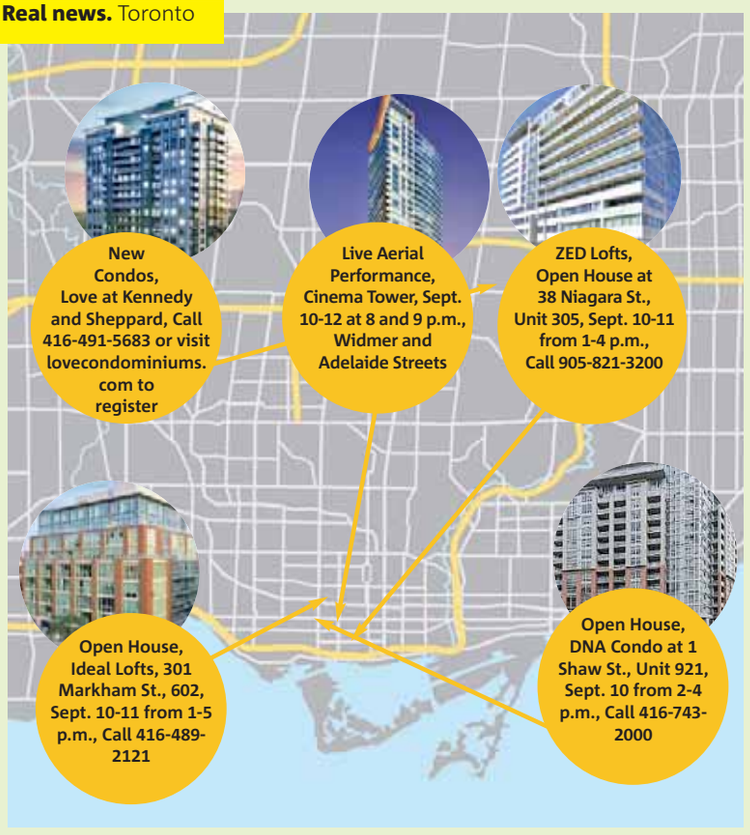
Building amenities

For residents with an active lifestyle, the building features an impressive 20,000 sq. ft. amenity space that includes a fitness center equipped with a yoga studio and an indoor pool that opens to a rooftop garden.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ EXPO City condominiums have predominately floor to ceiling glass windows.

Real news. Toronto



FALL HOME SHOW ALL ABOUT BETTER LIVING

ROOFTOP SURFING

STEPHEN DUPUIS
HOME
@METRONEWS.CA

Home shows are for homeowners, and whether you live in a low- or highrise home, if you're thinking of renovating, the Fall Home Show (fallhomeshow.com), which runs from September 22 to 25 at the aptly named Better Living Centre, at Exhibition Place, would be a great place to start.

Renovation is an incremental decision making process involving multiple discussions with your spouse or partner about which project is the priority, which style you prefer, and how much you're willing to spend.

BILD has conceived Destination Renovation as a way to help you advance along the renovation continuum.

The key aspect of Destination Renovation is renovation conversation, where you can sit down with any of our professional RenoMark™ contractors (renomark.ca) who will be on hand throughout the Show to discuss project feasibility, design trends, timelines and ballpark pricing.

The other aspects of Destination Renovation are renovation inspiration — our gallery of before and after photos of professional renovations of all types and budgets — plus renovation information such as the RenoGuide and our directory of professional renovators.

Once you've visited Destination Renovation, you can proceed to the booths of BILD member contractors who are all part of the RenoMark™ program, the symbol which tells you that they have agreed to our ten-point renovation Code of Conduct.

The members' booths will be easily identified by the RenoMark™ decal on the aisle carpet.

Now, I intimated last week that there might be a ticket giveaway, so as a reward to those of you who are still reading, here goes:

The first 10 readers who go on Twitter and tweet "I want tickets to #FHS2011" to @renomark_ca will each score a pair of free tickets to the Fall Home Show!

On your marks, get set, go!

STEPHEN DUPUIS IS PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE BUILDING INDUSTRY AND LAND DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION (BILD) AND CAN BE FOUND ON TWITTER (TWITTER.COM/BILDGTA), FACEBOOK (FACEBOOK.COM/BILDGTA), AND BILD'S OFFICIAL ONLINE BLOG (BILDBLOGS.CA).

The new vertical city

New condo developments are melding existing culture with a new community

Combining these spaces makes for efficient use of land

DUNCAN MCALLISTER
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

CONTRIBUTED

▶ As part of Toronto's Regent Park revitalization project, Daniels' Paintbox condos will house a new community arts and cultural centre in the base of the building.

It's not uncommon to find retail and office spaces located below residential condominium towers these days, but this trend starts to take on new meaning with the blending of interesting and diverse residential and cultural spaces.

Take Toronto's TIFF Bell Lightbox for example: a mixed-use development combining the 43-storey Cinema Tower with a six-storey podium housing theatres, galleries and studios — the new home to the Toronto International Film Festival.

Condo residents enjoy direct VIP access to the venue.

What buyers want

This creates an added value to an otherwise single use building that appeals to buyers.

"I would say certainly, that our purchases are showing a preference to buildings which have more interest in them then just typical residential buildings," says Martin Blake, vice president of the Daniels Corporation.

He maintains there's a move to people wanting diversity in the residential form.

"It's people saying, 'You know, I'd really like to have some good commercial at the base of my building.'"

Regent Park revamp

As part of Toronto's Regent Park revitalization project, Daniels' Paintbox condos will house a new community arts and cultural centre in the base of the building.

"The ability for us to have the Paintbox condominiums connected to a part of the arts and cultural centre certainly has been something that everyone is very excited about," says Blake.

"We're a vertical city and have the ability to build on top and with that comes the benefit of the density of the neighbourhood and where you're able to actually not take up another acre of the park because you need an arts and cultural centre."

MARTIN BLAKE, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE DANIELS CORPORATION

Growing up not out

Combining these spaces also makes for efficient use of land.

"We're a vertical city and have the ability to build on top and with that comes the benefit of the density of the neighbourhood and where you're able to actually not take up another acre of the park because you need an arts and cultural centre. It's quite the opposite: you put it on the residential side and the part which is directly across the street is now this wonderful six-acre park," Blake explains.

This new development melds existing culture with a new community.

'Neighbourhood spirit'

Toronto Ward 28 councillor Pam McConnell has been instrumental in realizing the Regent Park vision.

"One of the things we're trying to do is build the neighbourhood spirit as well as the bricks and mortar," she says.

"So there is the 400-person performance venue, it will have the Regent Park school of music, the film festival and the museum.

All that comes out of the work in Cabbagetown and Regent Park, and trying to make sure that the culture that was there before is really embedded in the community."

WHEN FORMER OWNERS ARE SLOW TO LEAVE

LEGAL MATTERS

JEFFREY COWAN
HOME
@METRONEWS.CA

Q: We recently purchased a home and our lawyer was quite efficient and managed to close the transaction by mid-day on the day of closing. Anxious to go see our new place, we picked up the keys from our lawyer and proceeded to the house.

When we arrived, we found the former owner was still moving out and refused us entry (with our contractor).

We called our lawyer who stated that they should be out and certainly should not be refusing access. What should we have done?

A: There is a great amount of confusion about possession of a new home.

In the pro forma contract, it states the parties have until 6 p.m. on the day of closing to complete the transaction and so many people assume this is when you have to be out of the sold home.

However, the vacant possession technically should occur when the money and the keys have changed hands and the transaction is registered by your lawyer.

So, if you had your keys, your transaction had been registered and you had the right to enter the property.

That being said, there is very frequently overlap if someone is buying and selling the same day and people move from their old home to their new home.

We advise clients that if you get there during the day and they are still vacating the premises, be patient and let them get on with their work.

However, they should not be refusing you access to the home because technically you own it.

If they insist you not enter, I would not be adverse to having the client call the police as technically, they are trespassing.

This of course is a last resort and co-operation is a much better approach.

JEFFREY COWAN IS THE PRINCIPAL OF COWAN LAW AND CAN BE REACHED BY EMAIL AT JEFF@COWANLAW.CA.

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Making a grand entrance

A Metro reader gets advice about decorating a long, narrow hallway

DESIGN CENTRE
KARL LOHNES
HOME@METRONEWS.CA

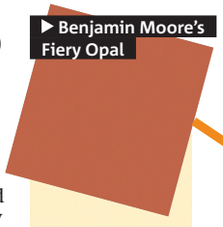
Q. I've moved into a new condo that has a very long and narrow entrance. There is a plain coat closet door, three ceiling lights and dark wood floors. I like warm colours and have a contemporary style. Any suggestions?
K. MacDonald, Toronto

WALLS

Paint the shorter (left-side) wall a punchy accent colour. Wrap this colour around the corner on the return wall and introduce it into the main living space.

Paint the plain door and its frame the same punchy colour to blend it away.

The long wall (on right) and its return should be a warm neutral colour that continues into the entire space. My favourite new accent colour is a brick colour called Fiery Opal from Benjamin Moore Paints. It looks great with all the golden brown tones in wood, yet warms up all the new grey colours that are all the trend right now. As a warm neutral, try Lighthouse, also by Benjamin Moore for the main walls throughout.



▶ Benjamin Moore's Fiery Opal

▶ Benjamin Moore lighthouse

FURNITURE

Since the hallway is so narrow, I suggest a small pedestal table or chair in the corner and a slim table in front of the middle wall-hung mirror. Make sure the table is less than 12-inches deep in order to create good flow. The Echelon console ($599) from Crate and Barrel has a hand-made, artisan look and is only eight inches deep — perfect for small foyers and hallways.

▶ Echelon Console

▶ Hudson Valley Middlebury

LIGHTING

Invest in three matching pendant lights; they will add more light to the hallway space and have more presence than the small ceiling lights. Semi-flushmount fixtures drop slightly into the space and help stop the eye every so often. This tricks the eye that the hallway is divided into sections and therefore shorter. The Middlebury pendant from Hudson Valley Lighting ($900) gives the illusion of a modern art deco light fixture that would have welcomed guests in a hotel lobby for years.

CONTRIBUTED

▶ The very dark wood floors are chic but shows the perimeter of the long, narrow entrance, making the hallway look like a bowling alley.

▶ Home Depot's Beverly Leaner mirror

MIRRORS

Hang three floor standing mirrors on the long wall; spaced about 16 inches apart with the middle mirror being opposite to the closet door.

This will help visually widen the hallway, especially in the middle where it feels narrowest and tight.

I like the Beverly Leaner Mirror ($110) from Home Depot; its mirror-on-mirror frame helps to reflect many angles in the hallway.

Hang the mirrors rather than leaning on the floor. Raising the mirrors higher will make the hallway feel lofty in height and not crowd the floor space.

▶ West Elm Glyph

ART WORKS

Place one punchy piece of art at the end of the hallway to create a destination point for the eye.

Large, colourful and modern art will help set the tone for a contemporary yet welcoming entrance.

The Glyph print from West Elm ($135) is colourful and plays up on the paint and carpet colours suggested.

As this is a focal point from the front door, make sure the size of the print is substantial and makes a statement.

GO FOR A RUNNER

I suggest breaking up the long hall with a colourful carpet runner.

Centre the runner in the middle of the hall — this will visually shorten the overall space by chopping up the dark wood floor.

If you want a boot tray near your front door choose one that is exactly the same dark brown as the flooring in order to keep the eye focused on the runner as a go-to accent.

A multi-coloured, loose-pattern carpet is great for narrow spaces as it spreads the eye from side to side.

Try Crate and Barrel's Montague Rug ($249), which is a slim 30 inches wide but 96 inches long. Remember to stay away from hallway carpets with striped following the length — this will emphasize the long hallway and only make it appear narrow.

▶ Montague rug

Karl's decor sources

- **Paint:** Benjaminmoore.ca
- **Large affordable mirrors:** homedepot.ca
- **Framed modern art:** westelm.com
- **Carpet runner and slim console:** crateandbarrel.ca
- **Reproduction light pendants:** hudsonvalleylighting.com

METRO NIGHTS AT THE LCBO

Karl lets us in on his secrets

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Streamlining your style

- Cultivate your home's look the way you do your wardrobe.
- This week: The interior equivalents of sportswear classics.

SWEATER

1 J. CREW

fisherman sweater, $98
jcrew.com

TOP

AMERICAN APPAREL

Breton Top, $48
americanapparel.com

BLOUSE

7 A.P.C.

blouse, $225
apc.fr

1

3

5

2

4

6

1 URBAN OUTFITTERS
Madeline chair
$350
urbanoutfitters.com

2 JONATHAN ADLER
vase
$105
jonathanadler.com

3 ERCOL
354 nest of tables
$790
ercol.com

4 DWELLSTUDIO
Draper stripe throw
$150
designpublic.com

5 IKEA
Ursula housse de cousin
$19
ikea.com

6 ALESSI
carafe
$36
alessi.com

KENYA HUNT

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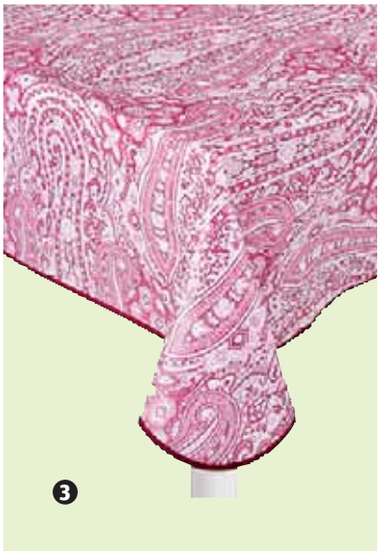
Printed matter

Prints are in fashion — in your closet as well as your home

1

2


3

1 MIKASA
coffee server
$130, mikasa.com

2 URBAN OUTFITTERS
paisley curtains
$39, urbanoutfitters.com

3 ZARA
tablecloth
$63, zara.com

4 KATE SPADE
polka-dot coasters
$20 katespade.com

5 SUR LA TABLE
dip dish
$5, surlatable.com

6 MOD
Polka-dot bath rug
$25, homemakergoods.com

7 JOHNSTONS
plaid throw
$212, johnstonscashmere.com

KENYA HUNT

4

5

6

7

DOUBLE DUTY

It's so lame when people leave decorative soaps lying around their bathroom and never use them. These bathroom items look good enough to display, but most importantly, get the job done.

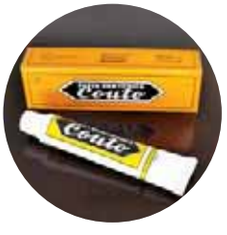
KENYA HUNT

MARVIS
toothpaste

- The classic mint flavour does a better job at killing bad breath than the strongest tube of Crest.
$9, marvismint.com

BRONNLEY'S
Lemon soap on a rope

- The best smelling soap ever, with an all natural, hydrating formula of Sicilian lemon oil and olive oil. The pretty box isn't bad either.
$19, bronnley.co.uk



CUOTO
toothpaste

- Portugal's classic cavity fighter prevents gum disease and adds a nice pop of neon to your bathroom sink.
$8, cuoto.pt

CLAUS PORTO
Banho soap

- Buy a bunch and toss them in a wicker basket by your bathtub for decorative oomph. And then use them liberally. The creamy, shea butter-infused bars are great for parched skin.
$20, clausporto.com

MISTRAL
melon bar

- This cutely packaged, hand milled French soap is made of pure organic shea butter and has light traces of melon and pear.
$8, mistralsoap.com

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Get rid of the grime while saving a dime

Refacing instead of replacing cabinets saves money when remodelling your kitchen ◗ Painting can be a good alternative

KITCHEN MAGIC)/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ What a difference a little refacing makes.

KITCHEN MAGIC)/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Abe Abuchowski's kitchen in Califon, N.J., before the cabinets were refaced.

The kitchen in Abe Abuchowski's Califon, N.J., home needed updating, but he didn't want the expense of replacing the cabinets. So he chose a less costly option.

"The old cabinets were in really good shape," he said. "They were high-quality cabinets, solid wood. It was the doors that really needed to be replaced."

Replacing the doors and covering the cabinets' remaining exposed parts with a matching veneer can be done for about half the cost of buying new, said Kit Selzer, senior remodelling and projects editor at Better Homes and Gardens. The process is called refacing.

Abuchowski said there's another advantage to refacing. "There's a minimum amount of disruption," he said.

"It's a simpler and quicker installation," agreed Brett Bacho, president of Kitchen Magic, the company that did Abuchowski's kitchen.

Bacho said that refacing cabinets typically can be completed in three to five days.

For refacing to be a viable option, however, the cabinets must be in good shape.

"If we had bad cabinets, just putting the new fronts on them wasn't actually where we wanted to go," said Claudia Phelps, who had the cabinets in her Washington, D.C., home refaced about 10 years ago. She said her cabinets were "very well built" and worth saving.

Refacing also might not be a good choice if you want to do major changes to your kitchen's layout.

"You do nothing to improve the function or the convenience of the kitchen," said David Alderman, owner of Dave's Cabinets in Chesapeake, Va. Nor, he noted, does refacing increase storage.

"Just a few years ago people were buying houses with rundown kitchens knowing they were going to replace them. Now there's a little more conservative attitude about it. People look for a kitchen and a house that has move-in qualities."
KIT SELZER, SENIOR REMODELLING AND PROJECTS EDITOR AT BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS

It is possible, however, to add cabinets that match the refaced ones. Both Abuchowski and Phelps did that.

Many people also choose to replace their countertops at the same time the cabinets are refaced. That, obviously, adds to the cost.

Cabinet companies say it's impossible to estimate the cost of refacing cabinets without seeing the kitchen and talking to the homeowner about the job.

"We've refaced kitchens for as little as $4,000 to $5,000, and for as much as $80,000," Bacho said.

Doors can be made of a variety of woods, for example, such as cherry, oak or maple, or of an engineered material like laminate, including some that look like wood.

Abuchowski chose a laminate. "It's very easily cleaned and it will stay looking newer longer," he said.

In refacing, the cabinet doors are removed, and the sides and exterior face of the cabinet are prepared for the veneer covering.

After that covering is measured and applied, the new doors — made to fit the existing cabinets — are installed.

Some companies replace the full drawers, others just the front. But the inside of the cabinet usually is not changed during the refacing process. "You could definitely paint the inside to go along with the outside," Selzer said. She advises going with a professional unless you're a very skilled do-it-yourselfer.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Get your trees winter-ready

Fall is an excellent time to give your trees a good once over before the winter storm season begins

ED ANDRIESKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Keep your shrubs nicely trimmed and looking loved.

ED ANDRIESKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Remove dead limbs from your trees before they fall.

It's a rite of fall — green leaves turn red and gold and then fall as trees prepare themselves for winter. It's an excellent time to give your trees a good once-over.

Are there dead branches or limbs, or large areas of fungus? Is the tree leaning? Are the roots well-grounded? A local arborist can determine whether there are problems that require immediate action.

Dead branches — or the entire tree — can come down in a storm. Be proactive, arborists say. "It's a lot cheaper to have the limb cut off than to fix your roof," said Jonathan Hammond, owner of Alpine Tree and Shrub Care in Denver.

And it's not just the dead limbs.

"Pruning your tree can make it better able to withstand the extra weight of ice and snow," the Tree Care Industry Association says on its website Treecaretips.org.

"Branches can be thinned to reduce their surface area and wind resistance."

The U.S. Forest Service has a guide for pruning trees, including dos and don'ts and when trees should be pruned.

But heights and chain saws can be a dangerous combination for amateurs. Sharon Lilly, director of education for the International Society of Arboriculture, said people should call a certified arborist for pruning large trees.

"Homeowners can do the smaller and lower stuff themselves," she said.

There are other things that can be done to help trees withstand harsh winters.

Give them a "good, long, slow drink," Lilly said. All trees should get that fall watering, but especially young ones planted in the last three years, and evergreens. "You might even do that more than once going into the winter months," she said.

A layer of organic mulch around the tree can help maintain moisture.

The mulch also insulates and protects the upper roots, said Tchukki Andersen, staff arborist at the Tree Care Industry Association. And, it will help replenish nutrients in the soil.

Think of it as an "early spring snack" for the trees when the area warms up, she said.

Arborists caution against placing mulch right up against the tree trunk. Think of shaping it like a saucer instead of a cone, said Vermont master gardener Ann Sherman: The mulched area should be as wide as possible to cover the underground roots but no deeper than five to 10 centimetres.

Watering should be done before the ground freezes so the water can reach the roots.

"The bigger the mulch area, the better the benefit," Lilly said.

For branches that have a weak union, or crotch, cabling is sometimes recommended.

Lilly said that should be done by a professional because there are "a lot of ways to do more harm than good."

A professional also can give you guidance on staking a tree to support it, Andersen said.

In areas where it snows a lot, small, fragile trees can be protected with a support teepee, essentially a tripod of plywood to prevent the snow from accumulating, she said. Also, some smaller trees can be winterized by temporarily tying some of the branches together.

"It's almost an engineering exercise, looking at your trees and what the potential loads are going to be and how the tree is going to respond," she said.

Hammond said that load can be heaviest during early season snowstorms, when trees still have their leaves. The leaves act like a net to catch the snow.

"If we get an early October snow, it can be really devastating to the trees," he said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A reason to rake

Once the leaves fall, clean up your yard, says Vermont master gardener Ann Sherman.

If the tree was infected with a fungus, the spores can survive the winter and reinfect the tree in the spring.

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Renos that you never thought possible. Really.

Remodelling your home doesn't have to be a pipe dream Try these innovative solutions, smart shopping options and tricks of the trade

CONTRIBUTED

A handyman with a plan: Licensed contractor Matt Blashaw co-hosts DIY Network's Money Hunters.

DIY IDEAS

When remodelling or renovating in your home, it can be easy to lose track of your budget or get carried away in making many changes.

Use these simple tips from DIY Network's Money Hunters, hosted by Matt Blashaw and Deanne Bell, to ensure your reno costs don't get out of control.

These hosts work with homeowners to deliver the best renovations money can buy.

Using innovative solutions, smart shopping options and tricks of the trade, makeovers are completed that homeowners never thought possible.

Repurpose your kitchen cabinets and countertops. Use existing cabinets but upgrade them by adding new doors, a fresh coat of paint or even new hardware.

A new backsplash can make countertops look stylish and coordinated — try using beadboard rather than pricey ceramic.

Get and check references. If you are doing a large renovation, hiring a reputable contractor is crucial.

Get recommendations and check out his or her past work.

Ensure they are licensed, bonded and insured.

This may cost you more at the start-up, but will save you money in the long-run.

Donate your old materials like cabinets, mirrors, countertops or flooring to avoid disposal fees and in some cases even get a tax break.

Similarly, you can shop at used stores to find great deals on new-to-you items.

Look for floor models of appliances. All you will be missing is the box.

Some retailers may even be willing to extend the warranty in order to unload the item from the store.

The best time to do this is early fall just as the new models are arriving.

Go directly to wholesalers. Cutting out a middle-man will always save you money, and some wholesalers even offer free design services.

Invest in permanence. The money you spend on architecture and design is going to last a long time.

Keep in mind that you can always upgrade to finer appliances, furniture or accent pieces, so be sure to invest most of your time and money in the permanent choices for your home.

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Design

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1. Monde //////////////////// The glass and masonry of Monde is a delicate balance between architecture and nature. International architect, Moshe Safdie, design team, Cecconi Simone, landscape designer, Janet Rosenberg and renowned developer, Great Gulf, have collaborated to create a building that is perfection. Rising to quality standards and targeting LEED Gold, this iconic building will soon become downtown's waterfront and city landmark.

2. Moshe Safdie //////// Moshe Safdie has designed innovative buildings on three continents, in countries including the United States, Israel, Singapore, China, France, Korea, the United Arab Emirates and Canada. His work is internationally recognized as some of the most visually striking and architecturally spirited buildings on earth.

3. Gardens in the Sky ////////// Suites at Monde celebrate nature with spacious balconies and spectacular lake and city views. Uniquely designed, generous balconies punctuate the building's exterior, like gardens in the sky. Perpendicular from the building, each staggered balcony is crowned by two storeys of open space.

4. The New Blue Edge /////// The face of Toronto is changing at the water's edge. Waterfront Toronto, the largest urban revitalization project in North America, will reconnect people to the city's waterfront with a vibrant master-planned community. New residences, retail space and waterfront parks will create a new public and cultural destination for live, work and play. Welcome to the New Blue Edge.

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CLEAN DISHES GET THEIR START IN A CLEAN DISHWASHER

CHARLES THE BUTLER

ASKCHARLES THEBUTLER@ METRONEWS.CA

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ISTOCKI

▶ You wouldn't wash dishes in a dirty sink, would you?

Do I really have to clean my dishwasher? And how and why should I go about this?
Perplexed

Dear Perplexed,
Believe it or not, you actually really do need to clean your dishwasher, and ideally this should be done monthly.

But the good news is that it is simple to do.
1. Remove all dishes from the dishwasher including any debris you may find in the bottom.

Pour the white vinegar into the empty dishwasher. Do not use soap.
2. Turn the dishwasher on to the highest heat setting and run a full cycle.

Ideally the temperature should reach 140 degrees Fahrenheit or higher for a full seven minutes to fully kill all of the bacteria and disinfect the dishwasher.
3. Clean the door gasket, door edge and seal on a weekly basis with a damp cloth to remove food particles and other debris.
4. Check for hard water deposits and clean spray arms on deep cleans to ensure that the spray arms are unobstructed.

GOT A QUESTION? PLEASE EMAIL ASKCHARLESTHEBUTLER@METRONEWS.CA

The bachelorette pad: Safety outweighs closet space for females

Whether it's in condos, apartments or houses, more and more women are choosing to live alone these days.

Christina Aragon, director of Strategy and Consumer Insights at Rent.com, breaks down the Mars versus Venus of the home market.

1. What are single ladies looking for when they rent or buy a home?
According to our data, 72 per cent of single women cited a safe neighbourhood as their must-have feature, while 13 per cent of single women told us their No. 1 requirement was enough closet and storage space.

Another eight per cent wanted a spacious kitchen above all else.

2. Are single ladies more likely to buy or rent? Why?
According to our survey, 36 per cent of single women rent their current homes, while 54 per cent are homeowners and another 10 per cent live with friends or family for free.

The likelihood of a single woman being a homeowner versus a renter can be most highly correlated to age; the older the woman, the more likely she is to own the home.

3. What's the biggest difference between what a single man is looking for in a home versus a single woman?
We found it interesting that while 42 per cent of single men wanted to have eligible bachelorettes as a neighbour, only 14 per cent of single females felt the same way toward their male counterparts.

In terms of neighbour preferences, our survey found that single females preferred to have families with children (30 per cent) or married couples without children (25 per-cent) close by.

Furthermore, single women shared that they would even prefer to have people with pets as neighbour (24 per cent), instead of having single men next door. ● MWN

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Disastrous dinner parties

HANDOUT/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Beth Bovaird, a Come Dine With Me Season One contestant, is coming back for the redemption episode.

Home entertaining has never been this hilarious Come Dine With Me has five strangers host dinner parties for each other on consecutive nights

Cathy Habus considered it a victory when no one threw up at her dinner party.

The night wasn't perfect. Habus, 34, admits she drank too much wine and frightened her guests with bizarre after-dinner entertainment, but it was more successful than her last attempt to cook for a group.

For one thing, "all my food was edible," she said, laughing, any embarrassment over her faux-pas long gone.

Habus, an English tutor from Mississauga, Ont., had hoped to make up for her disastrous performance on Come Dine With Me, a W Network show that has five strangers host dinner parties for each other on consecutive nights.

The contestants secretly rate their host at the end of each night and the person with the week's top score wins $1,000 in cash.

In the show's first season, Habus "sampled" too many mojitos and served unintentionally raw scallops, overcooked lamb and a beet mousse that had one notoriously picky guest retching in the bathroom.

The show — the Canadian version of a hit British series — returns for a second season Sept. 12 and shakes things up Thanksgiving Monday with a "redemption round" that pits Habus against other catastrophic Season One cooks.

Experience helps, but it doesn't guarantee smooth sailing, the returning contestants learned.

"This time around, I decided that I would be classy, confident and cool," Habus said at a luncheon to promote the upcoming season. "I wasn't any of them."

Beth Bovaird, another past competitor knocked out of the running when her signature smoked ribs burned to coal-like lumps, said she tackled a simpler dish on her second try, hoping it would be easier.

"I'm not really too sure if I redeemed myself as well as I would have liked to, but I sure gave it an honest effort," said Bovaird, a professional hypnotist, though she wouldn't discuss the menu or how it turned out.

Missteps — whether it's a dog eating off the table, an hour-long delay between courses or a cake that deflates in the oven — seem almost inevitable on the show.

"I think the successes are sort of more entertaining and more deserving, or people are trying harder because they saw the first season," producer Amy Hosking said of the new episodes. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hosting is hard

Season Two will break a lot of new ground, producer Amy Hosking said. For the first time, an overwhelmed and irate host kicks everyone out of her home; another drops out of the competition altogether.

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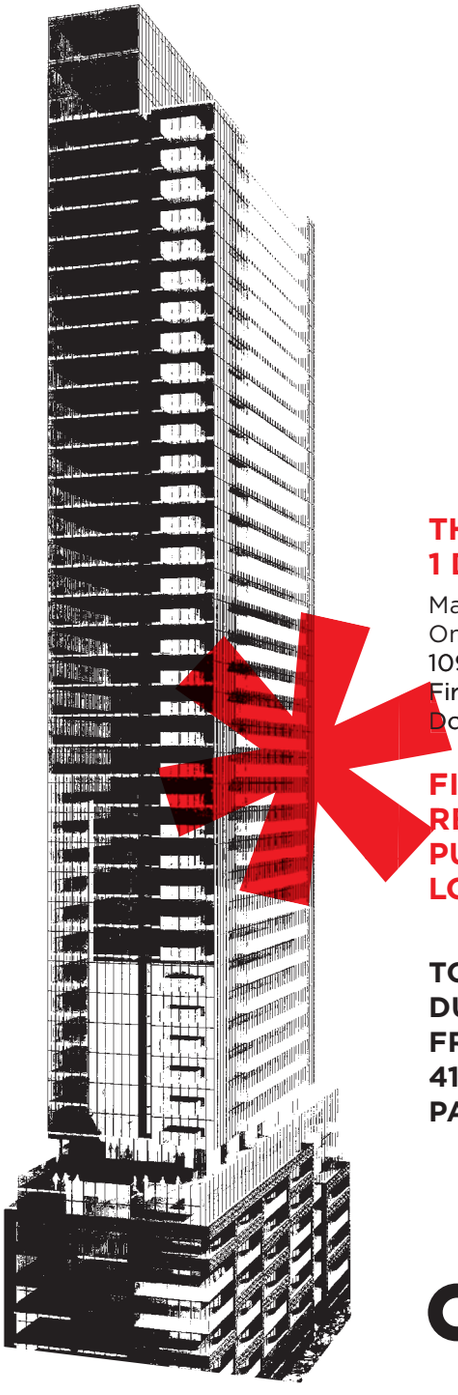

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4 sports

A long road back to the big leagues

After being forced to give up his pitching career by injuries, Canadian Loewen returns to majors, starts in right for Blue Jays against Red Sox

DARREN CALABRESE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Adam Loewen comes to bat in the third inning against Boston last night.

Adam Loewen of Surrey, B.C., says he has always enjoyed hitting more than pitching.

After two stress fractures in his left elbow forced him to abandon his major-league career as a pitcher with the Baltimore Orioles, he returned to the majors last night as a right-fielder with the Toronto Blue Jays.

"It's a rare feat," Blue Jays manager John Farrell said.

Regular right-fielder Jose Bautista was listed in the lineup as the Jays designated hitter against the Boston Red Sox at Rogers Centre.

Loewen joined the Blue Jays as a September call-up after he finished the season with triple-A Las Vegas batting .306 with 17 homers and 86 runs batted in.

The 27-year-old Loewen, who bats and throws left, said his return to the majors is different than the first time when he got the call from the Orioles in 2006. They had made him their first-round pick in the 2003 draft.

"The first time there was a lot more excitement but this is just a dream come true to be playing for the Blue Jays as a hitter," Loewen said. "Now I'm actually doing what I want to do. It's very satisfactory and I feel very blessed to be playing at all."

He was 8-8 with a 5.38 earned-run average in 35 major-league games, 29 as a starter.

"We thought it was a chance to get him in the lineup right away," Farrell said before last night's game. "And we had talked about giving Jose a day at DH just to get him off his feet."

It's not that Loewen didn't also enjoy pitching, it's just that pitchers don't hit as much as players at other positions. "The real dream would be to do both but they don't let you do that," he said.

"I was never sure," Loewen said before last night's game. "I knew I had a chance. I was a good player in high school. But I always loved to hit more than I liked to pitch."

He gave up pitching after the 2008 season and signed with the Blue Jays on Oct. 24, 2008.

"It wasn't that I guaranteed myself to get back here," he said. "I knew I was going to enjoy doing it. A lot of people believed in me. I had a lot of help along the way to make this possible and the best part about it is it's not over yet.

"It's not success yet, just getting here, because that was never my intention. I wanted to go as far as I could." THE CANADIAN PRESS

Quoted

"What a great win. When he hit it, I said, 'It's that kind of year.'"

DETROIT PITCHER JUSTIN VERLANDER. VERLANDER WON HIS 10TH STRAIGHT START AND EARNED HIS 22ND VICTORY OVERALL AFTER VICTOR MARTINEZ HIT A LATE GRAND SLAM THAT SENT THE TIGERS OVER THE CLEVELAND INDIANS 8-6 LAST NIGHT.

Scan code for more sports news.

Encarnacion saves the day for Jays

Edwin Encarnacion hit a bases-clearing double in a five-run eighth inning and drove in five runs last night as the Toronto Blue Jays rallied to defeat the Boston Red Sox 11-10.

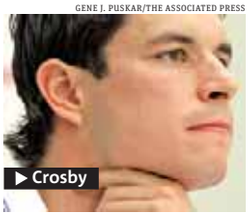
Knuckleballer Tim Wakefield stood to win the 200th game of his career but Boston's bullpen disappointed the veteran. Reliever Daniel Bard (2-6) coughed up two runs with bases-loaded walks in the eighth inning and Matt Albers surrendered Encarnacion's tie-breaking double.

It was Wakefield's seventh attempt to reach 200 after winning No. 199 on July 24 against Seattle.

Jacoby Ellsbury had four hits including a three-run homer to extend his hit streak to 12 games and David Ortiz and Adrian Gonzalez also homered for the Red Sox.

Gonzalez hit his 24th of the season in the ninth against Frank Francisco who picked up his 13th save despite giving up two runs. Shawn Camp (4-3) got the win. THE CANADIAN PRESS

GENE J. PUSKAR/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Crosby

'Best I've felt for a long time': Crosby

Sidney Crosby will make a full recovery from a brain injury and will play again in the NHL. He is certain of it, and so are the concussion specialists who are treating him.

The question is when. Right now, neither the medical experts nor the Pittsburgh Penguins can make an accurate guess when the NHL's signature star will play again.

Despite the rapid, measurable progress Crosby has made since being bothered again by post-concussion symptoms while doing arduous conditioning work last month, there is no accurate estimate when he will play again for the Penguins.

Next month? Next year? Who knows?

"I have no earthly idea," said Michael "Micky" Collins, who heads the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center's concussion testing unit.

Crosby, speaking publicly yesterday for the first time since late April, said only that he was sure he would play during the 2011-12 season, which begins next month and runs through the Stanley Cup final in June.

"This is the best I've felt for a long time," Crosby said at a news conference that attracted a large number of reporters from the United States and Canada. "The last three weeks have been really good. I feel myself getting better and better."

The Penguins, relieved that Crosby apparently will make a full recovery from the type of head injury that has ended careers, cautioned he won't be back on the ice until he is fully recovered from a severe concussion that occurred following hard hits in successive games Jan. 1 and 5.

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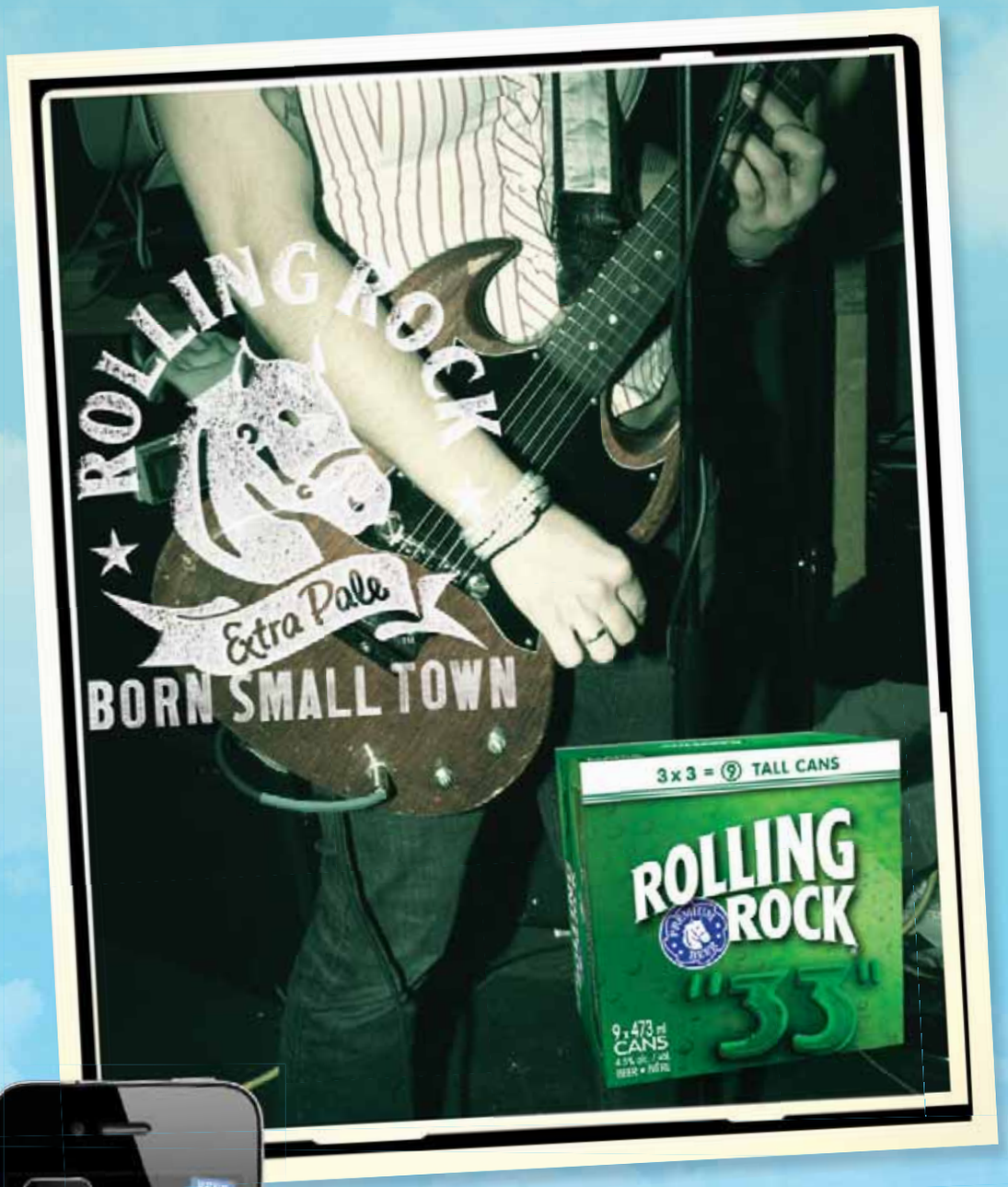

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Rain claims another day of Open

- Stars upset after playing on damp courts before matches were called for the day
- 'They know it's still raining and call us onto the court,' Nadal complains

MIKE GROLL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Rafael Nadal sits underneath an umbrella before his match was called off yesterday at the U.S. Open.

Rafael Nadal, Andy Roddick and Andy Murray got in about 15 minutes of tennis yesterday — barely enough to work up a sweat, but more than enough to get into a snit.

Rain washed out some matches for the second straight day at the U.S. Open, creating a logjam in the schedule and a bigger mess in the locker room, where the big-name players questioned the wisdom of putting them out on courts that were still damp thanks to a fine mist that was falling in the morning.

Shortly after they started, play was called, then late in the afternoon, the players were sent home — their fourth-round matches now scheduled to be completed today.

U.S. Tennis Association officials didn't immediately cancel women's play, knowing if they could squeeze any of those quarter-final matches in, they could stay on some semblance of a schedule — and make the TV broadcasters a bit happier.

The forecast in New York for last night called for a 100 per cent chance of rain.

"Grand Slams is about a lot of money," Nadal said in an interview on ESPN after falling behind 3-0 to unseeded Gilles Muller. "We're part of the show. They're just working for that, not for us. They know it's still raining and call us onto the court. That's not possible. ... I understand the fans are there. But the players are important in this part of the show, too, and we didn't feel protected."

After being called off the court when the mist turned into rain, Nadal, Roddick and Murray all went to the tournament director's office to discuss the situation.

Aware of the criticism, the USTA released a statement, saying there appeared to be a two-hour window without rain in the morning and because of that, officials decided to start play.

"Unfortunately, not all light rain and mist shows up on radar," the USTA said. "We have experienced referees, and they decide if courts are fit for play. Conditions may be not ideal, but still can be safe. However, if a player or players feel that conditions are unsafe, we listen to them, as we have always done, and the referee uses that information as part of his/her assessment on whether to continue or halt play."

Two men's quarter-final matches — Roger Federer against Jo-Wilfried Tsonga and Novak Djokovic against Janko Tipsarevic — were postponed earlier in the day.

With rain showers lingering over the Billie Jean King National Tennis Center for the second straight day, this debate about safety, money, weather and scheduling had to suffice for the afternoon's, and maybe the evening's, entertainment.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

BILL KOSTROUN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Yankees fans endure the rain on Tuesday.

The Show must go on

With little time left to make up games delayed by rain, baseball tries to wait out the weather

Puddles aren't about to stop any pennant races.

With three weeks left in the regular season, Major League Baseball is feeling the pressure to play every game, despite a lot of wet weather. The result? A sports version of "The Late, Late, Late Show."

Because just like the mail, "neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night" prevents baseball from getting to the final out.

Atlanta's game at Philadelphia began shortly before 9 p.m. ET Tuesday night after a one-hour 52-minute delay and didn't end until just past midnight.

That was an early night compared with what happened up the coast. By the time Phil Hughes threw the first pitch in Baltimore's game at Yankee Stadium, it was 11:08 p.m. local time — 4:03 later than the scheduled start time. There were just 1,000 or so fans in the stands.

"It got really bad out there. I don't want to comment on whether we thought we should have played or not, but it just — it wasn't a good situation," Yankees first baseman Mark Teixeira said.

With more rain forecast for yesterday, a miserable fan experience wasn't much of a factor for the Yankees and Phillies. Ultimately, late-season decisions on when to start are up to MLB.

"It was a joint decision by the commissioner's office and the Yankees," New York president Randy Levine said. "The weather report for Wednesday was very ominous. We have one off-day left, and it's off a West Coast trip, so we had to do everything in our power to get it in."

There are few slots for makeups because of a schedule that crams in 162 games into 182 days. Three off-days are taken up by the all-star break, and teams in the East and Midwest usually build off-days into April, when weather frequently is the worst.

The Yankees already have had eight postponements, most in the majors, and 12 games played with delays. Already jamming in four rescheduled games during the final month, New York has just one off-day — Sept. 15, a travel day after a series at Seattle and before a game in Toronto.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Star receiver Fantuz returns to Roughriders

All-star slotback Andy Fantuz has returned to the struggling Saskatchewan Roughriders.

Fantuz announced via Twitter yesterday morning that he would attend the CFL team's practice, effectively putting his NFL aspirations on hold. He took to the field at Mosaic Stadium wearing his old No. 83.

"It feels great," Fantuz said after practice.

"You know, I missed these guys out here and had a good practice coming off a good week, a lot of energy in the room and I'm just excited to get going again."

The native of Chatham, Ont., was the CFL's outstanding Canadian last year after registering a league-high 1,380 receiving yards before signing as an option-year player with the NFL's Chicago Bears.

"Just like old times, we're just bringing old times back"
ROUGHRIDERS QUARTERBACK DARIAN DURANT

The six-foot-four, 221-pound Fantuz was among Chicago's final cuts but still had a 10-day period during which he could have signed with another NFL club. However, by reporting to practice Fantuz will commit to the Riders for the remainder of the season.

"It just felt like it wasn't probably going to happen this year," Fantuz said of his NFL bid. "When teams go through the waiver period and then they make their practice squads and stuff, usually nothing else will happen in the first week. It takes a little longer. I didn't have that much time and was anxious to get back on the practice field and get back playing.

"I'm happy to be playing here. I just want to fit in however I can fit in to help this team win."

Fantuz's return is certainly good news for the Riders (2-7), who have been plagued by turnovers, bad penalties and missed opportunities. The dismal start to the season cost head coach Greg Marshall and offensive coordinator Doug Berry their jobs Aug. 19.

Vice-president of football operations and former head coach Ken Miller stepped back onto the sideline, leading the team to an impressive 27-7 home win over Winnipeg on Sunday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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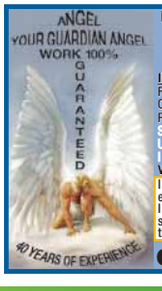

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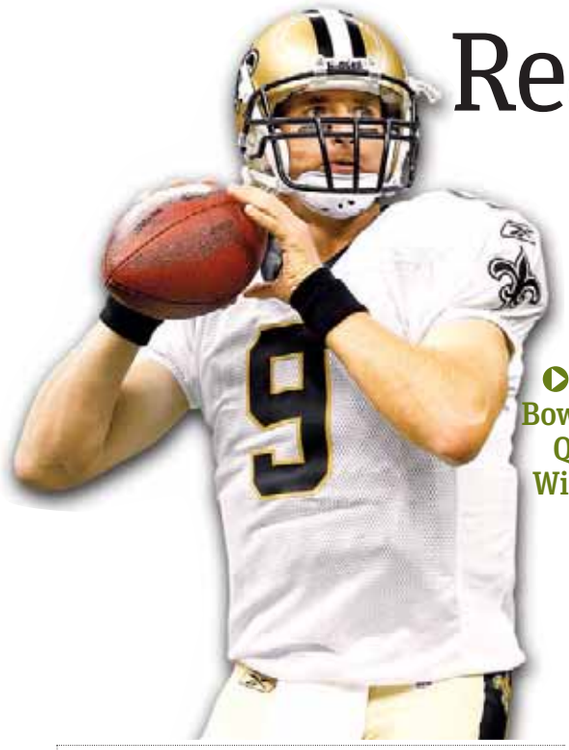


Ready for the big stage

NFL season opener features past two Super Bowl champions and past two Super Bowl MVPs, QBs Drew Brees and Aaron Rodgers ◆ Small Wisconsin town prepares to take NFL spotlight

Look past the towering concert stage that engulfs part of the Lambeau Field parking lot and there's a pair of massive banners depicting Aaron Rodgers and Drew Brees hanging off the arena across the street.

Hotels will be full. Schools will close early in Green Bay. Coolers will be stocked and grills will be sizzling. As Kid Rock warms up for a pre-game concert, there will be no doubt that a bigger-than-big game is hitting the NFL's smallest market.

For the league, it's a chance to put away any lingering resentment from an off-season filled with ugly and tense labour negotiations. For the Saints and Packers (8:30 p.m. TSN), it's a chance to send a message that they intend to contend again.

"It's a similar feel to a big game, a playoff game," the reigning Super Bowl MVP Rodgers said. "There's a big atmosphere outside the stadium. But the only thing that matters is taking care of business on the field."

Brees knows no big-picture objectives will be won or lost in Week 1.

"I'm sure we're going to get questions about future playoff implications and all that stuff about this game," said Brees, whose Saints lost a stunner to Seattle in last year's playoffs, preventing a chance to repeat. "We see ourselves as a great team and as a contender. They see themselves as a great team and as a contender. The fact of the matter is it's one game and it just happens to be the first game of the season on a Thursday night on national television. But you just try to cut through all that and understand it's just a game, and it's just one game."

The Saints are recommitting to the running game and have some new faces to make it happen. Reggie Bush is gone, but Pierre Thomas returns after being slowed by an ankle injury last season. He'll be joined by free agent addition Darren Sproles and first-round rookie Mark Ingram.

The Packers have added new wrinkles to their offence, including a no-huddle look that was successful in the pre-season.

They'll also get back at least three likely starters from injuries: tight end Jermichael Finley, safety Morgan Burnett and running back Ryan Grant; Grant will split carries with James Starks.

The Packers think the reintroduction of those injured players, along with some incoming rookies who may play significant roles, will help them fend off any sense of complacency that may have prevented past Super Bowl winners from repeating.

Rodgers thinks the Packers can be perennial contenders.

"If you think about 'teams of the decades,' those teams won multiple Super Bowls," Rodgers said. "The Steelers of the '70s, Niners of the '80s, Cowboys in the '90s, Patriots in the 2000s were multiple Super Bowl victors. We want to re-establish that tradition of going deep in the playoffs every year and making runs at Super Bowls."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Metro NFL power rankings — Top 10

1.) Green Bay Packers

You're the King until someone dethrones you. It's tough to repeat in the NFL, but the Packers' stability will carry them far.

2.) New England Patriots

Tom Brady and Co. are going to score a ton of points. If Bill Belichick can unlock Albert Haynesworth's potential, the Pats could hoist their first Lombardi since 2004.

3.) Atlanta Falcons

The most talented team on paper. Now, QB Matt Ryan must prove he can win a playoff game.

4.) San Diego Chargers

Philip Rivers looked like a MVP candidate in the preseason. The Bolts — ranked No. 1 in offence and defence in 2010 — are legit.

5.) Pittsburgh Steelers

They didn't address a secondary that got torched in the Super Bowl. Still, they return 20 of 22 starters after coming up one drive short of a title.

6.) New York Jets

Rex Ryan guaranteed a Super Bowl win at the NFL combine. It's on Mark Sanchez to take the next step.

7.) Philadelphia Eagles

Mike Vick and the Dream Team. Does it spell championship? With a potential six new starters on defence, a new coaching staff, and an untested O-line, it's going to take time to gel.

8.) New Orleans Saints

Drew Brees threw 22 picks and the Saints were still great in 2010. Watch out for RBs Darren Sproles and Mark Ingram.

9.) Houston Texans

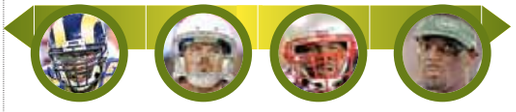
We're picking the Texans to make the playoffs for the first time in franchise history. Their offence is straight out of Tecmo Bowl.

10.) Baltimore Ravens

With Ed Reed, Ray Lewis and Terrell Suggs leading the defence, expect 10 wins. The challenge will be on the offensive side. ● MIKE GREGER METRO WORLD NEWS

Old faces, new places

Metro looks at four players who could make big impacts with their new teams after a frenzied, lockout shortened off-season.



QUINTIN MIKELL
OLD » EAGLES
NEW » RAMS
The Eagles usually know when to cut ties with aging players, but the 30-year-old safety can still bring it and fills a huge void left by starter Oshiomogho Atogwe.

KEVIN KOLB
OLD » EAGLES
NEW » CARDINALS
The QB gets a second shot at starting — and, with a $65 million price tag, we're thinking it lasts longer than one game. Throwing to Larry Fitzgerald won't hurt either.

ALBERT HAYNESWORTH
OLD » REDSKINS
NEW » PATRIOTS
Bill Belichick is a master of getting the most out of his players (see: Randy Moss, 2007) — and this defensive end has too much talent to continue to be a bust.

PLAXICO BURRESS
OLD » PRISON
NEW » N.Y. JETS
Not many teams wanted the former inmate when he hit the open market in June. But Rex Ryan isn't one to pass on a reclamation project. ● METRO WORLD NEWS

INJURY UPDATE

It's official: Manning's streak over

Peyton Manning has quarterbacked the Indianapolis Colts every Sunday since Sept. 6, 1998.

He won't this weekend.

Manning will be in street clothes when the Colts opens the season at Houston, still recovering from neck surgery while Kerry Collins starts.

"It's going to be a little different without Peyton," coach Jim Caldwell said.

The 227 game streak is the second longest in NFL history behind Brett Favre. Peyton's younger brother Eli holds the longest active streak with 110 starts, including post-season play.

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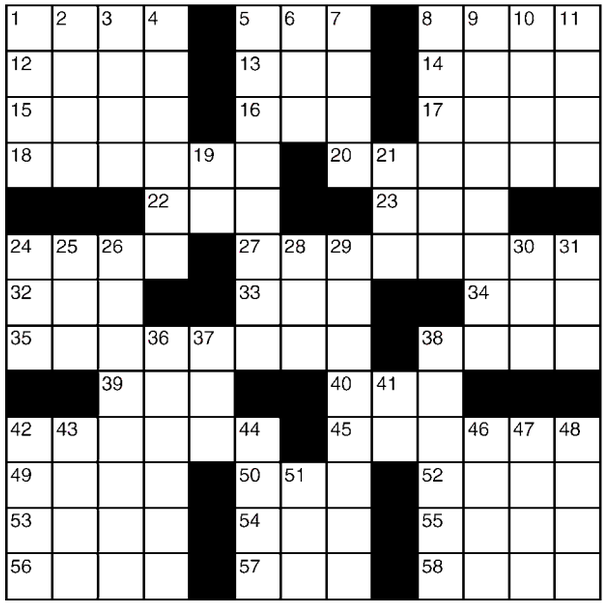

Across

1 Money
5 Here (Fr.)
8 Off-key
12 Minstrel's instrument
13 — sequitur
14 Regarding
15 Met melody
16 Moment
17 Slave to crosswords?
18 Mimicry expert
20 "The Maltese Falcon" director
22 Enjoy Aspen
23 Sch. org.
24 — accompli
27 Pest
32 Possess
33 Larry King's former employer
34 Western st.
35 Paraphrases
38 Big rig
39 Levy
40 Pull along
42 Iced dessert
45 Rhododendron's kin
49 Hebrew month
50 "2001" computer
52 Snitched
53 "The Amazing —"
54 Under the weather
55 Maintain
56 Picnic invaders
57 One of the family
58 Squeezes (out)

Down

1 Applaud
2 Emanation
3 Use a teaspoon
4 San Simeon publisher
5 Natural aptitude
6 Miler Sebastian
7 Foot fraction
8 Cinco de Mayo party
9 Case
10 Italian river
11 Adolescent
19 Suitable
21 High points
24 Supporting
25 Shock and —
26 Teach
28 French article
29 Sets up for use, as software
30 Rotating part
31 Inventor Whitney
36 Restaurant furniture
37 Hatchet
38 Wrap
41 Wizard's place
42 Antitoxins
43 "The Good Earth" heroine
44 Anything but that
46 Glimpse
47 Model Macpherson
48 Tosses in
51 Will Smith biopic

▶ Yesterday's answer

B	A	K	E	■	J	A	W	■	A	G	E	S
A	L	A	N	■	E	C	O	■	V	A	L	E
G	A	N	G	S	T	E	R	■	I	N	M	E
S	W	E	A	T	■	■	D	R	A	G	O	N
■	■	■	G	U	R	U	■	E	N	L	■	■
H	U	G	E	■	O	N	C	E	■	I	M	P
U	S	A	■	C	O	D	A	S	■	E	A	U
B	E	N	■	E	K	E	S	■	F	R	O	G
■	■	G	A	S	■	R	E	E	L	■	■	■
C	A	L	L	T	O	■	■	G	O	N	N	A
O	L	I	O	■	G	A	N	G	W	A	Y	S
N	O	O	N	■	R	I	O	■	E	P	E	E
G	E	N	E	■	E	L	M	■	R	A	T	A

Sudoku

	8		7		4	2	3	
					3			8
6						7		5
	3		2			9	8	
				9				
	1	4			6		7	
3		1						6
5			8					
	4	7	6		9		2	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

4	3	1	9	7	5	2	6	8
9	7	8	6	2	3	5	4	1
2	6	5	1	8	4	3	9	7
8	2	7	3	9	1	6	5	4
5	1	4	2	6	8	7	3	9
3	9	6	4	5	7	8	1	2
6	5	2	8	4	9	1	7	3
7	4	3	5	1	2	9	8	6
1	8	9	7	3	6	4	2	5

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You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

coral olivos, As I gaze up into your eyes, two stars brown and bold, I can't help but notice all the warmth you truly hold. Through your eyes I see your soul, untouched and still whole. You love me, Already I know. Looking up into your eyes, makes me love you more and more each day. **MAMI**

E.L. It has already been half a year since we first dated, and I've enjoyed every single moment of it. I'm grateful that I have someone like you who cares so much for me. I love that you're always there, especially during the times where I need you the most. I hope we never grow apart. I love you, forever & always. **A.K.**

Leo, I have two eyes to see you, two arms to hold you, two ears to hear you ,two lips to kiss you but only one heart to love you! **DAISY**

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Friday
23°/14°
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You are in for some serious criticism today. Don't listen to it.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Be careful who you confide in because if you reveal something embarrassing, soon everyone will know.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 You are no longer sure that what you are planning is such a good idea. It's a just a passing doubt.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 Chances are you will fall out with someone who does not share your outlook on life. But that's OK.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 Don't allow yourself to be distracted by events that are likely to steer you away from your long-term goals.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 No matter how much you want to explain to certain people what you expect, they may not understand.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 Someone you work with is harbouring a secret grudge against you.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 If you take what someone tells you at face value today, you'll miss the more interesting half of the story.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 Think before you speak today: Sometimes words can be more dangerous than actions.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 This is a great time of year for you, so don't hold back.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 The only reason a colleague is being so critical of you is because they resent your success.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. There's no need to kick yourself for failing to get around to completing a project. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

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